

JACKPOT & BLACK CAT



BRONFMAN
LAISO
BELVISO
REBER

MARVEL

MARVEL

COLLECTED EDITIONS



Mary Jane & Black Cat: Dark Web

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AVAILABLE IN PRINT OR DIGITAL WHEREVER BOOKS ARE SOLD!



JACKPOT & BLACK CAT

MARY JANE WATSON wields a gauntlet that can generate an infinite number of random powers for her to use ranging from the awesome to the useless to the deadly. **FELICIA HARDY** is the world's greatest thief, a feat attributed to decades of training and the ability to cause bad luck for those around her.

On the surface, Mary Jane and Felicia don't have much in common outside of mutual ex-boyfriend, **SPIDER-MAN**. But more importantly, the duo share a tenacity that makes them the perfect team. Before MJ got her powers, they pulled off a heist against the notorious gang leader Tombstone. More recently, they helped defend New York City from the demons of Limbo. It was at Black Cat's urging that MJ adopted her Jackpot identity so that she could continue to use her newfound powers to help people. Since then, MJ hasn't seen much of her feline friend. That's about to change...

JACKPOT & BLACK CAT

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AMAZING SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL (2023) #1
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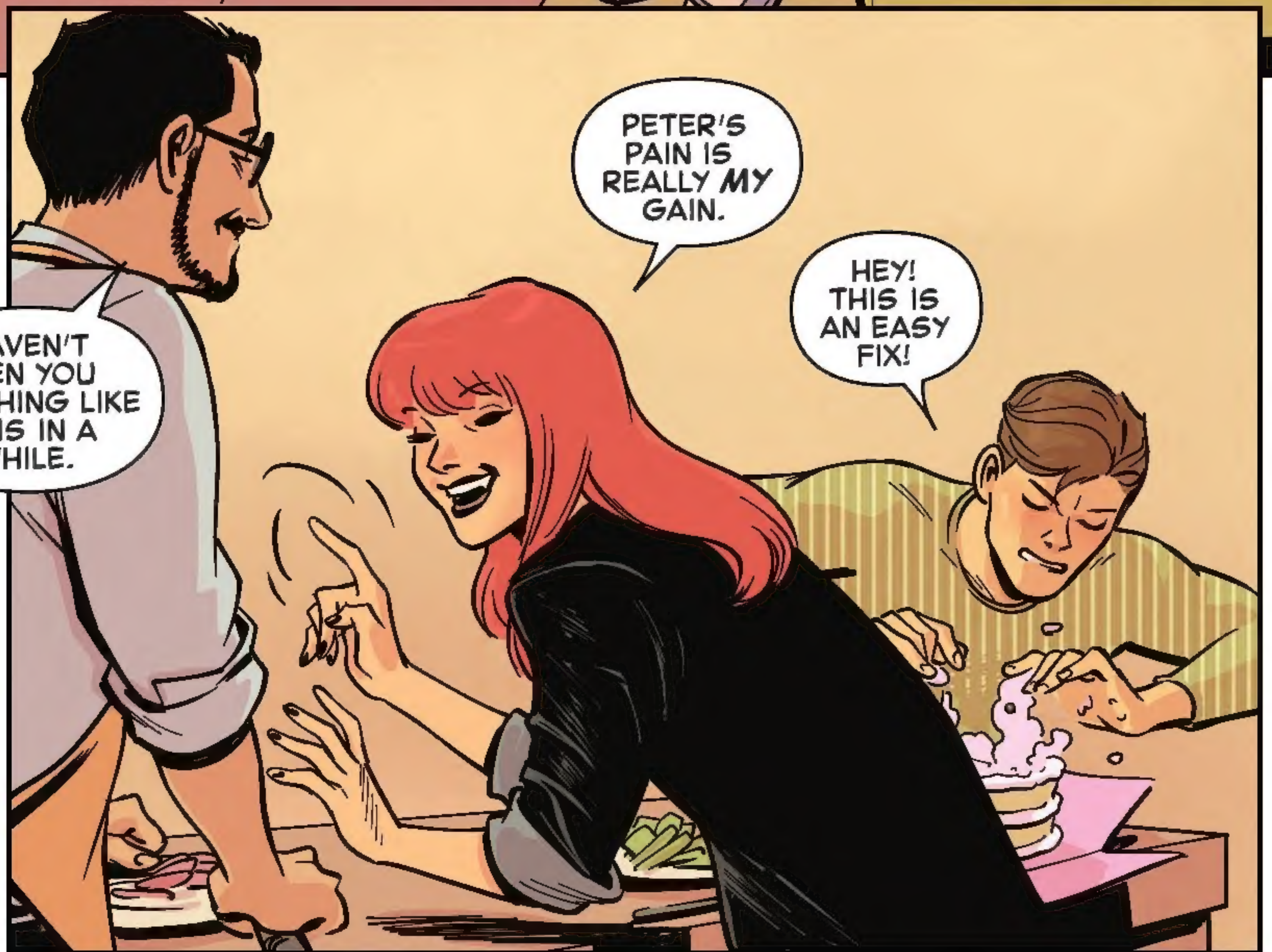
editor: **NICK LOWE**

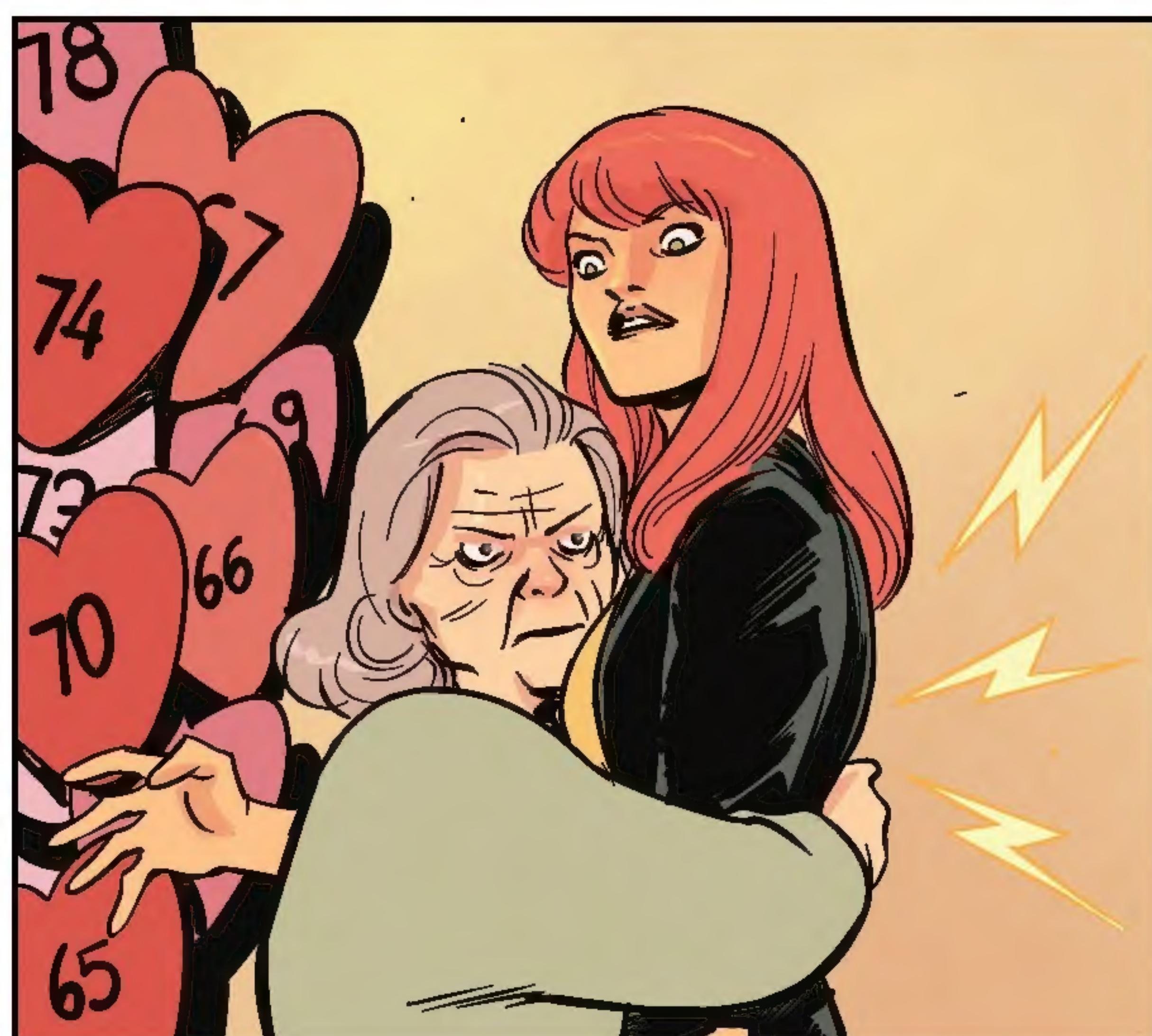
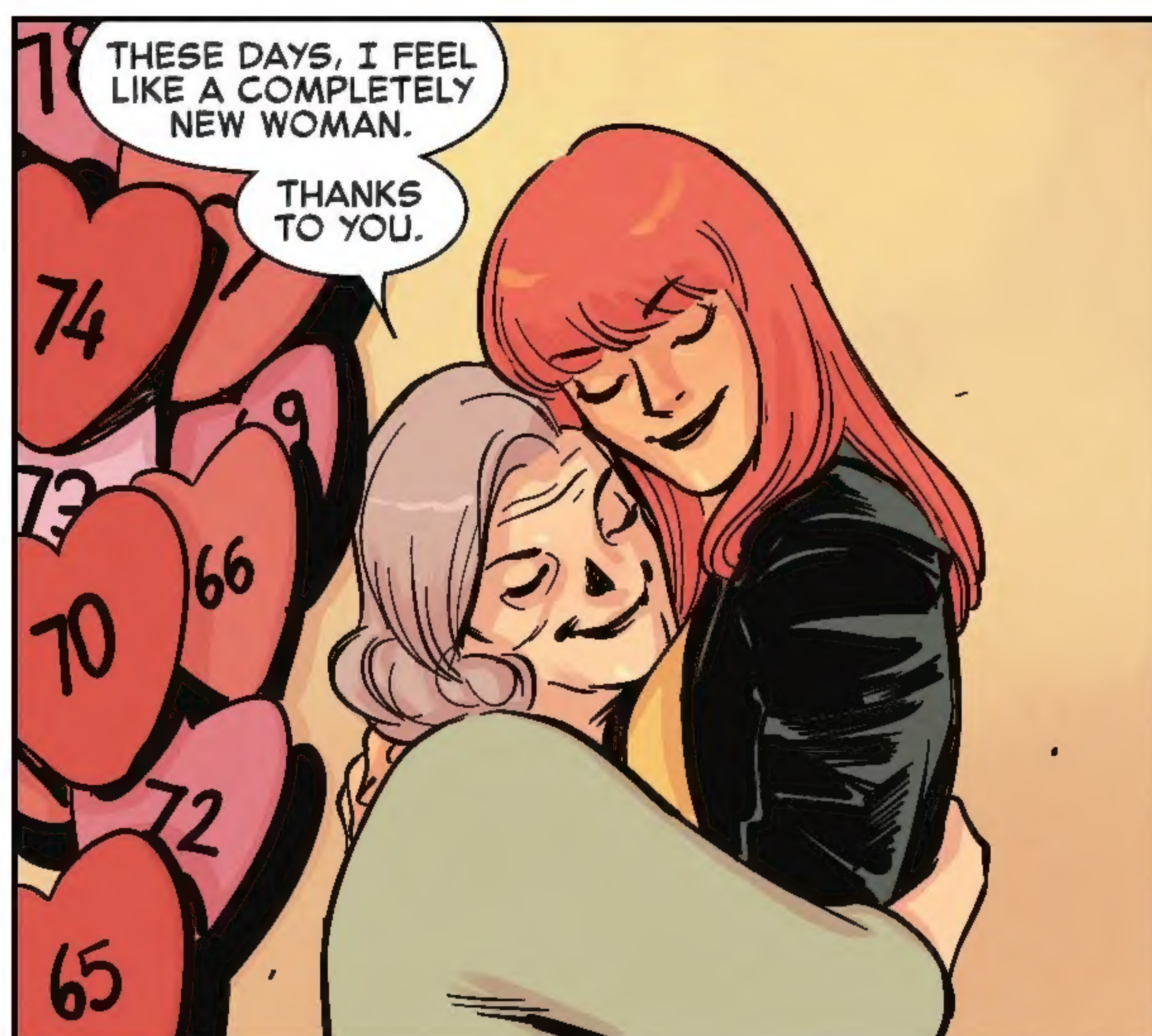
PREVIOUSLY...

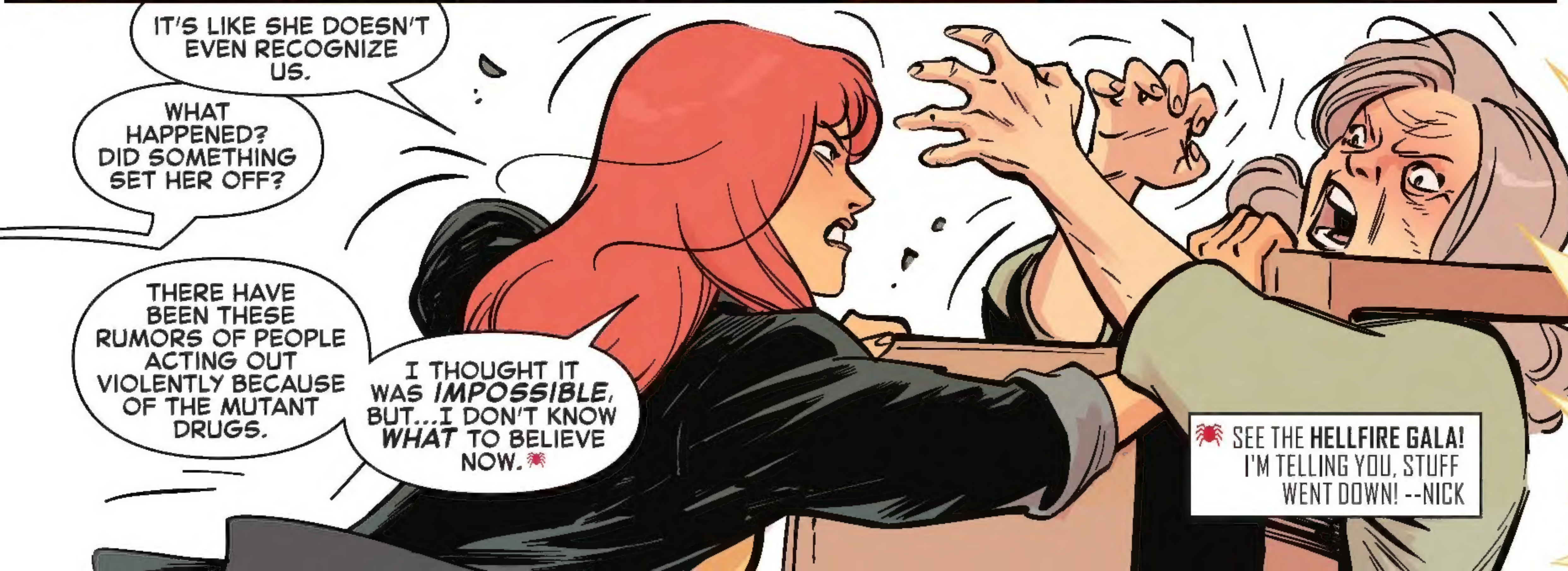
MARY JANE WATSON has had a lot of titles... Modell! Actress! Entrepreneur! Executive! Mom? After an incredibly powerful super villain called **THE EMISSARY** trapped Mary Jane in an alternate dimension, she found engineer **PAUL RABIN** as well as two young children. MJ and Paul raised the kids as their own. The couple also harnessed the power of a supernatural language through a gauntlet that Mary Jane can use to wield random super-powers with the spin of the gauntlet's three wheels. The happy family made it to Mary Jane's home dimension, but the happiness wasn't to last. The Emissary returned and revealed that he had created Mary Jane's children and showed that he could also destroy them. Along with Spider-Man and Ms. Marvel, Mary Jane and Paul defeated the Emissary but now have to face an unimaginable grief.

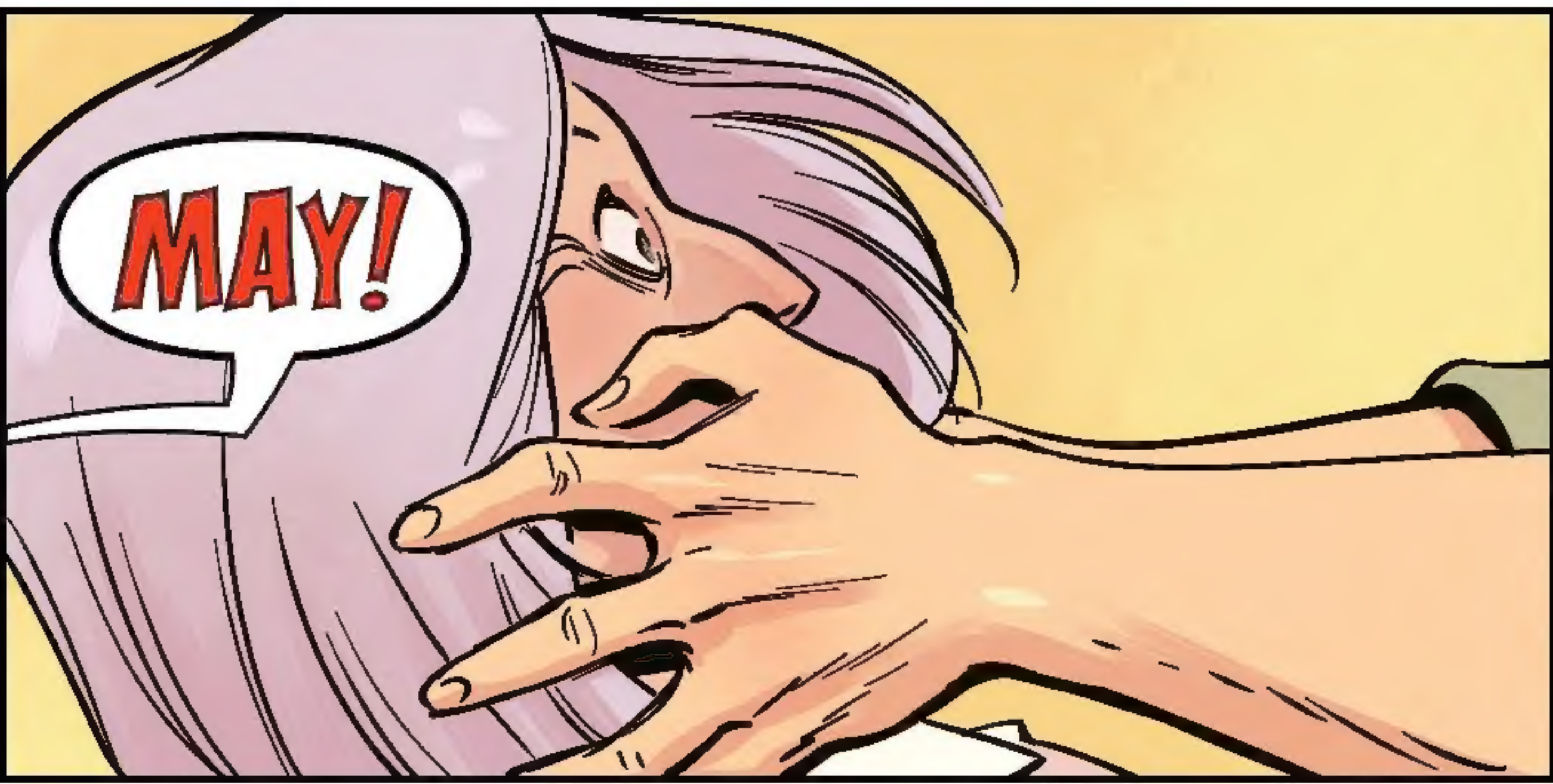


AMAZING SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL #1 VARIANT BY
CLARICE "SAOWEE" MENGUITO











I HEARD THE PARTY FROM DOWN THE STREET. THOUGHT I'D SWING ON BY.

THWIP!



YOU'VE GOT TO GET EVERYONE TO SAFETY.

WHAT ABOUT YOU?



I'M AN ACTRESS, PAUL. I'LL IMPROVISE.

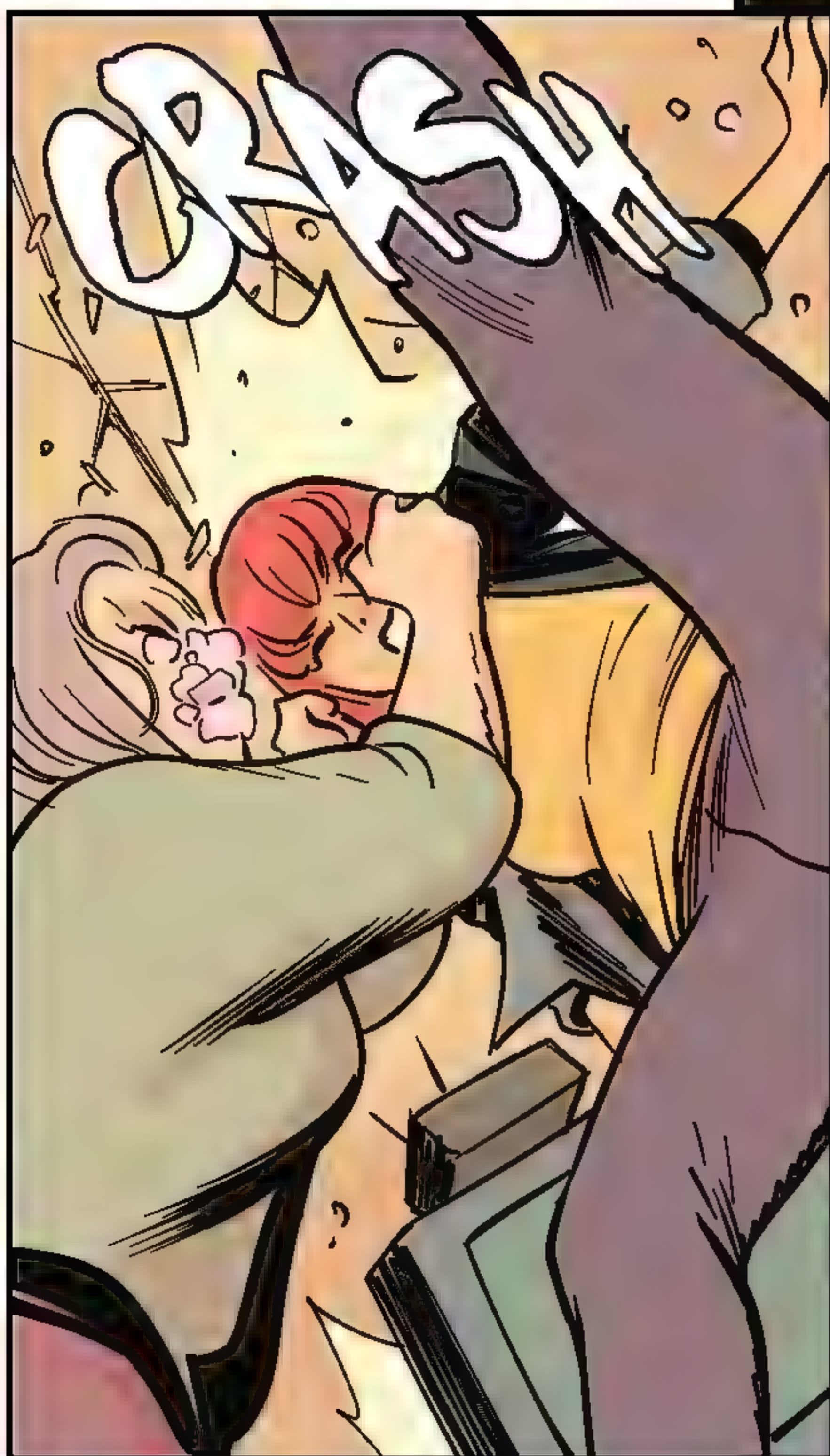
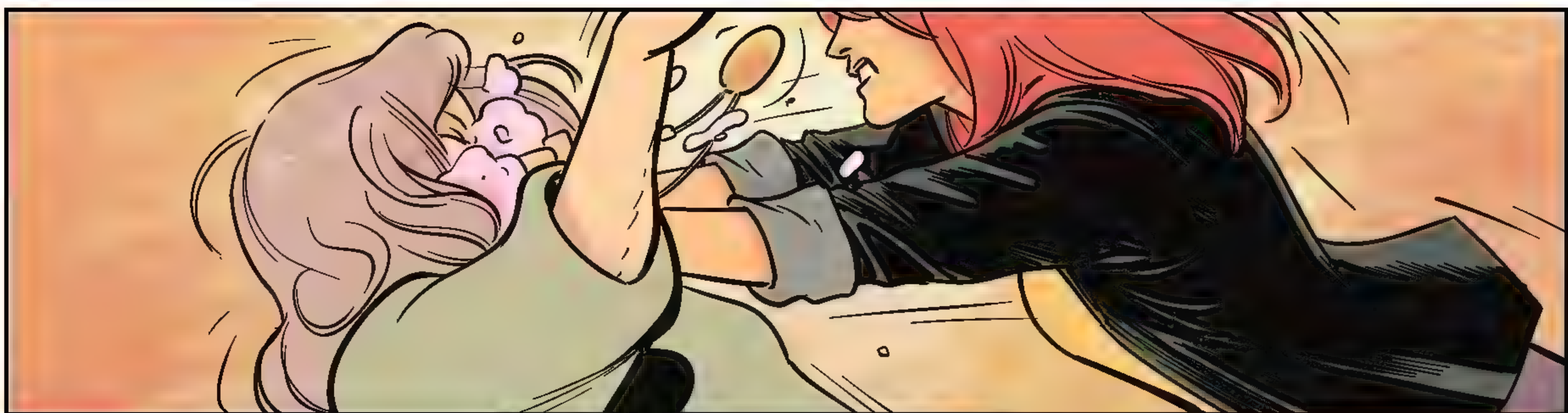
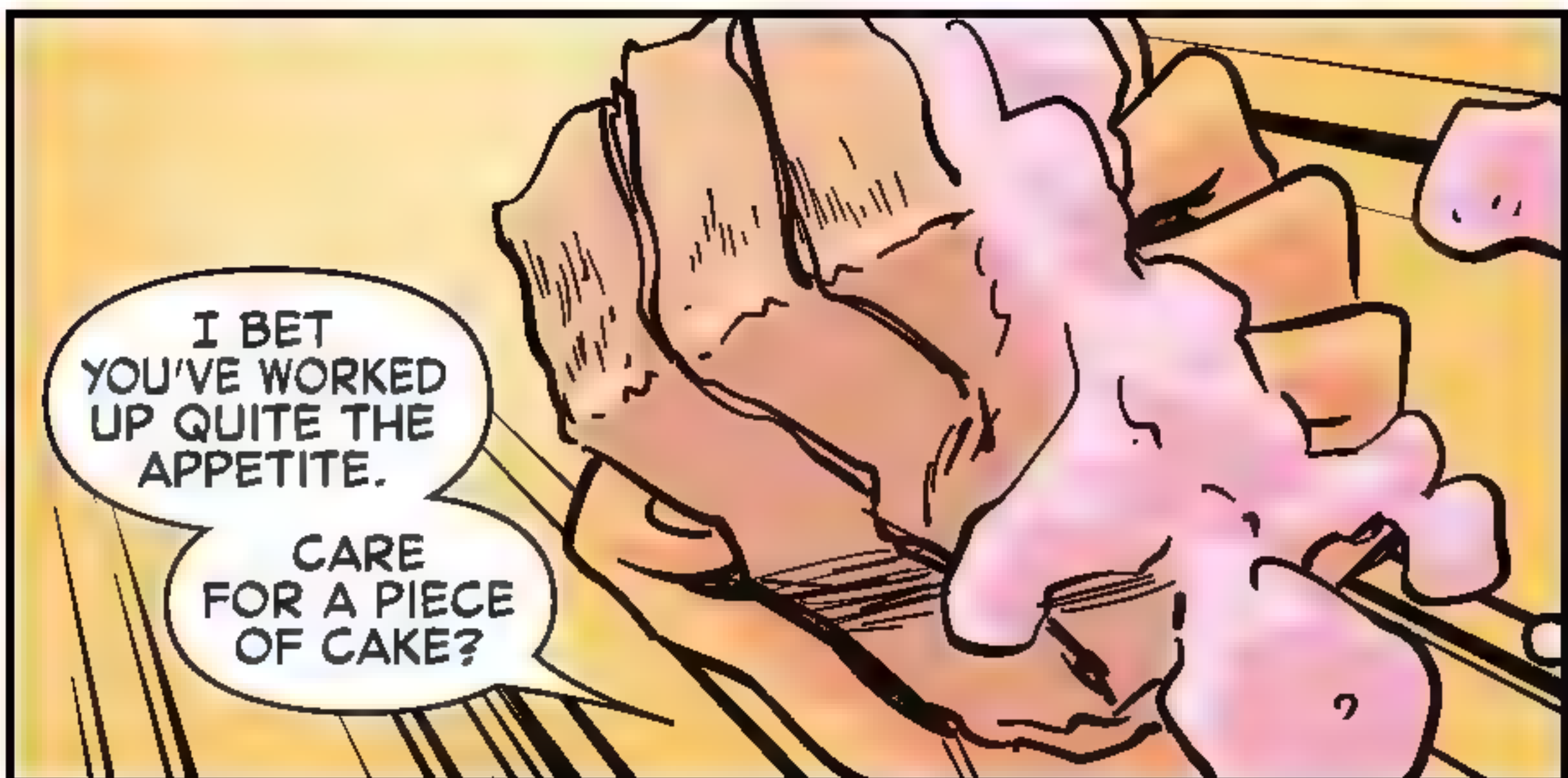
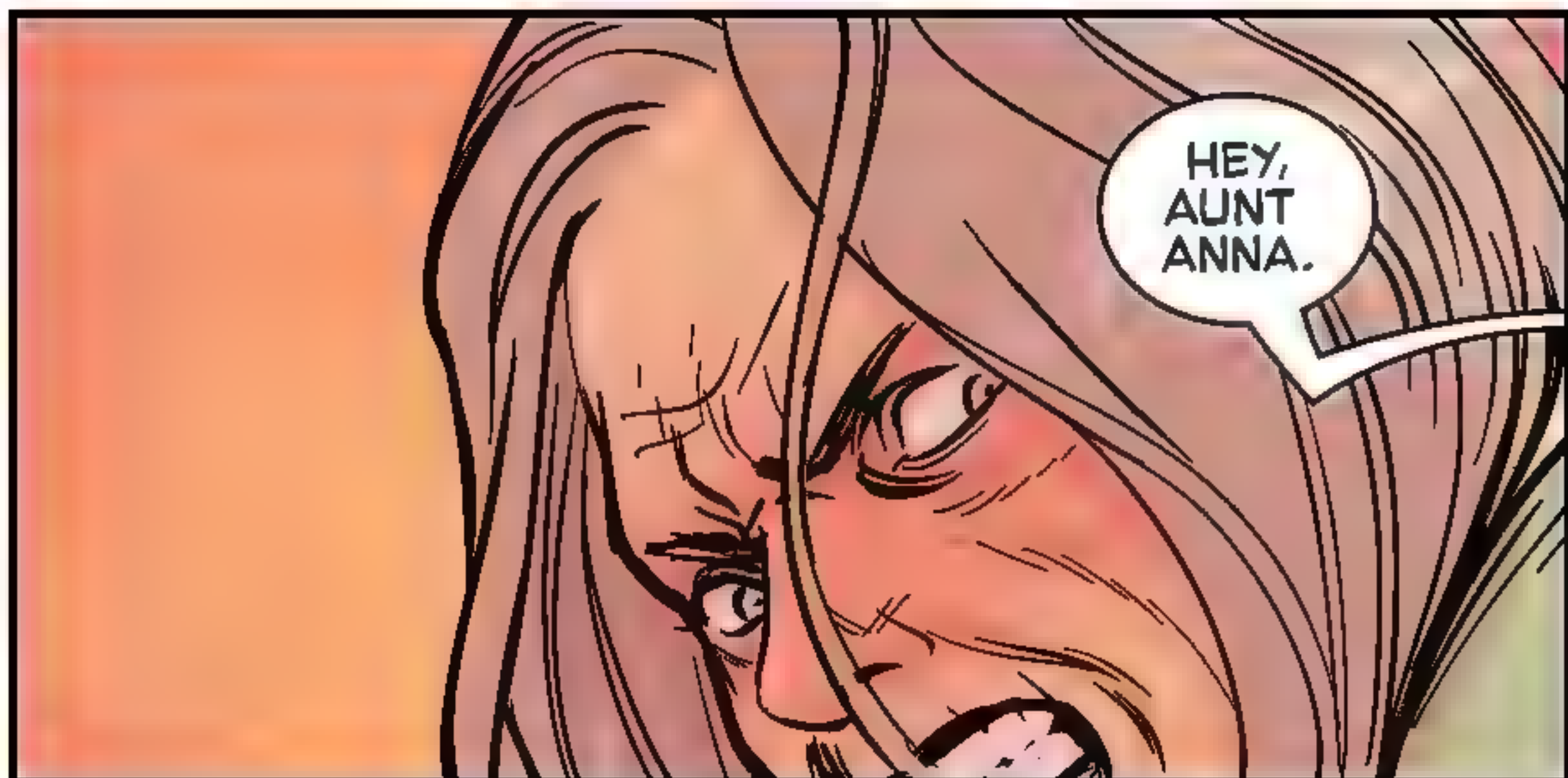
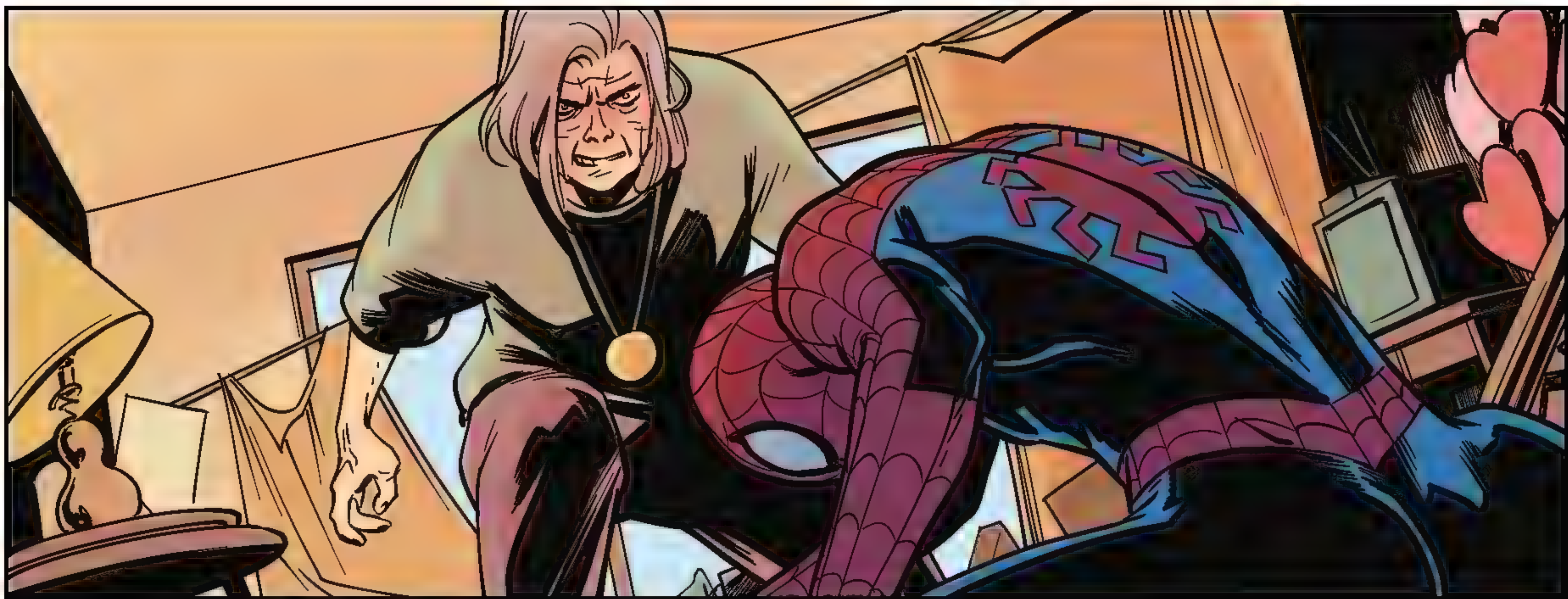


I'M AGAINST PUNCHING OLDER LADIES AS A GENERAL RULE.

BUT IS IT OKAY IF THEY'RE POSSESSED AND TRYING TO MURDER YOU?!



I'LL TAKE THAT AS A "YES."





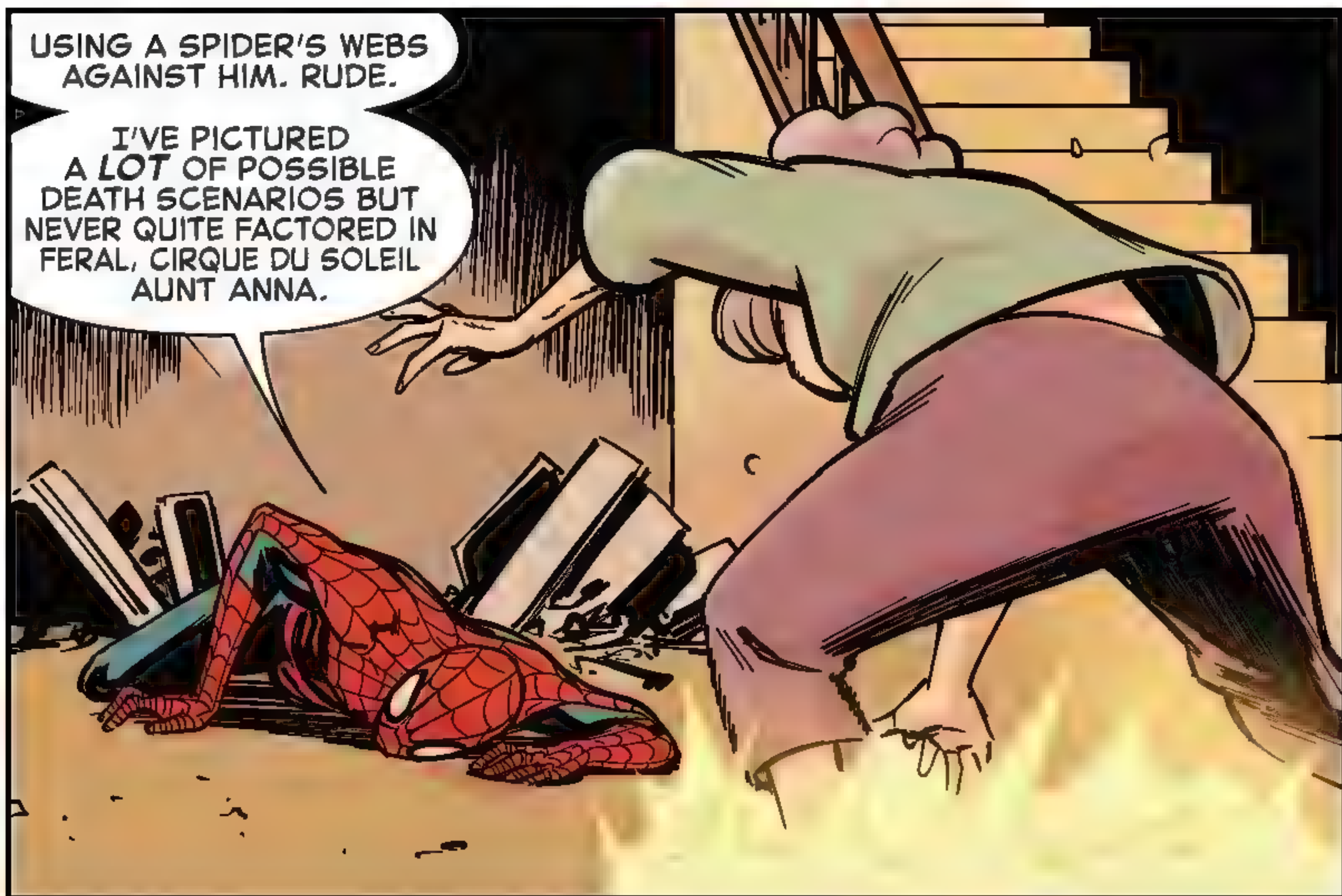
THWP!

OH BOY...

WHOOOSH!

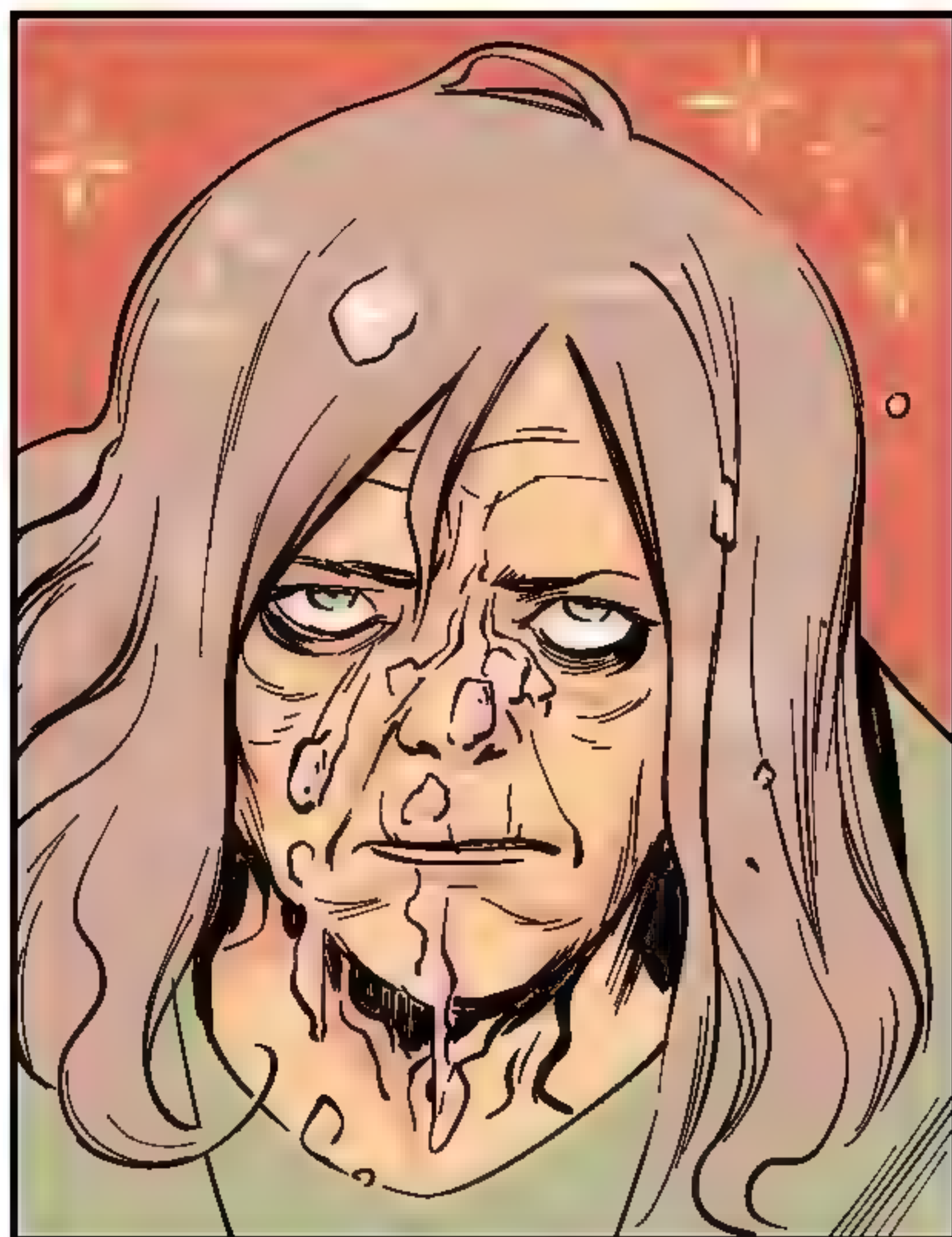
WHA

AAGHH!

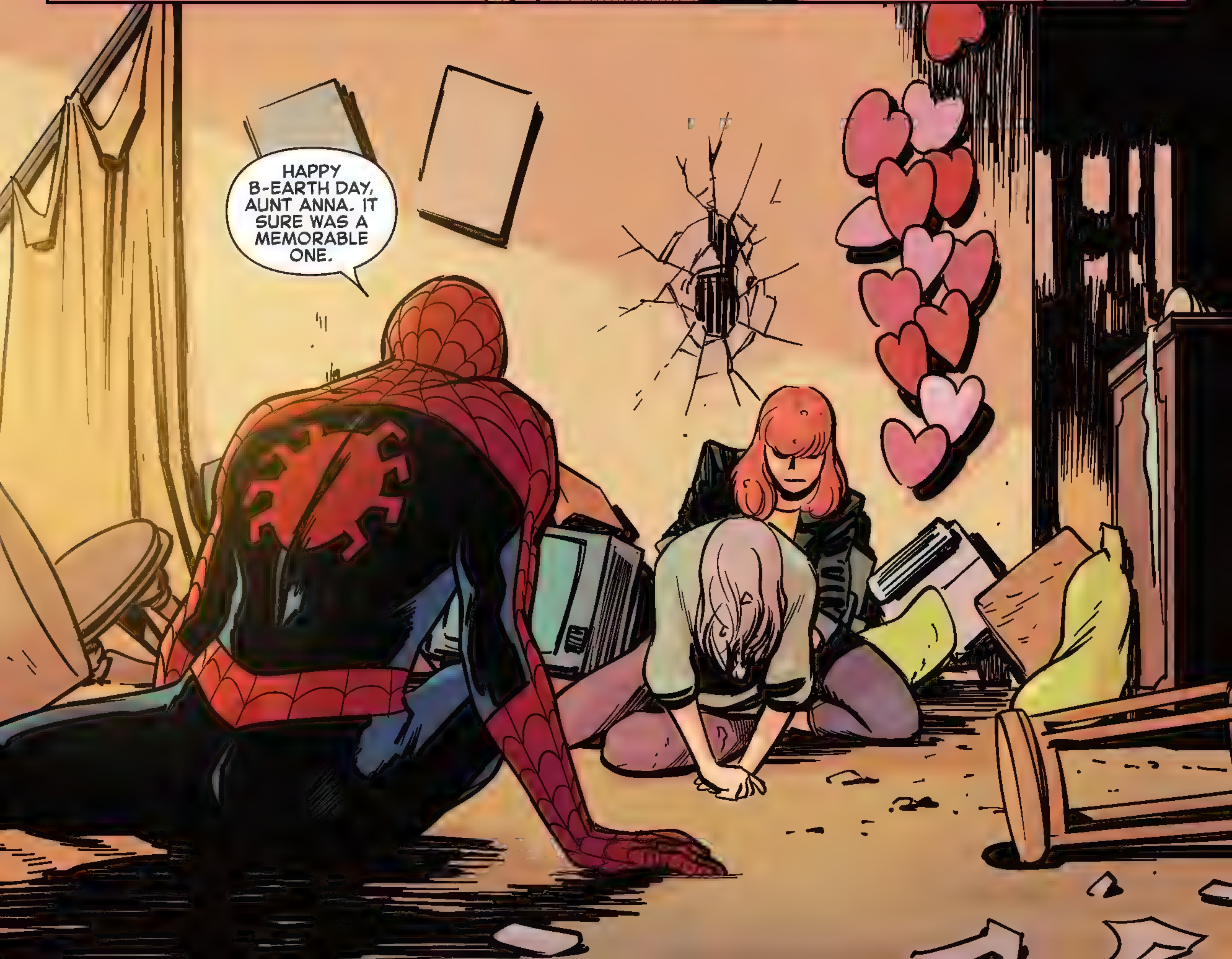


USING A SPIDER'S WEBS
AGAINST HIM. RUDE.

I'VE PICTURED
A LOT OF POSSIBLE
DEATH SCENARIOS BUT
NEVER QUITE FACTORED IN
FERAL, CIRQUE DU SOLEIL
AUNT ANNA.



I SLIPPED A COUPLE
SLEEPING PILLS IN THE
CAKE. THEY SHOULD
KEEP HER SEDATED FOR
AT LEAST A FEW
HOURS.



HAPPY
B-EARTH DAY,
AUNT ANNA. IT
SURE WAS A
MEMORABLE
ONE.

RAVENCROFT INSTITUTE.

IT'S BEEN AN ABSOLUTE MADHOUSE IN HERE LATELY.

POOR CHOICE OF WORDS.

YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE HOW MANY OF THESE NEW PATIENTS HAVE THE SAME STORY AS YOUR AUNT. TAKING WATERCOLOR CLASSES ONE SECOND, GOING ON KILLING SPREES THE NEXT.

WOULD YOU HAPPEN TO KNOW HOW MANY OF THEM WERE TAKING KRAKOAN PHARMACEUTICALS?

WE'RE NOT ALLOWED TO DIVULGE THAT SORT OF INFORMATION.

I COULD SEE IT IN HIS EYES. THEY ALL TOOK THE PILLS. WHAT IF THE MEDS WERE POISONED?

DO YOU THINK THE MUTANTS ARE BEHIND THIS?

NOT A CHANCE. BUT THEY PROBABLY HAVE MORE INFORMATION THAN WE DO.

I'LL TRACK WOLVERINE DOWN. GET US SOME ANSWERS.

AND YOU'RE SURE SHE'S GOING TO BE OKAY HERE?

LOOK, I DON'T LOVE THIS PLACE, BUT I DON'T KNOW OF ANYWHERE ELSE THAT STANDS A CHANCE OF HELPING HER.

BEST WORST OPTION, I GUESS.



WE HAVE TO ASSUME SHE'S GETTING THE HELP SHE NEEDS AT RAVENCROFT. WE'LL VISIT HER. PETER WILL WORK WITH HIS FRIENDS TO TRY TO FIX THIS.

I ALREADY HAVE CALLS IN TO MR. FANTASTIC. AND IT COULD HAVE BEEN A LOT WORSE IF YOU HADN'T FOUND HER SLEEPING PILLS.



THEY WEREN'T AUNT ANNA'S PILLS. THEY WERE MINE.



PAUL AND I HAVE BEEN STAYING WITH AUNT ANNA EVER SINCE...

THERE ARE JUST TOO MANY MEMORIES BACK HOME.

LOOK, AUNT ANNA *IS* GOING TO BE OKAY. AND THAT'S ME SAYING IT BECAUSE I BELIEVE IT.



THE THREE OF US ARE GOING TO FIGURE THIS OUT.





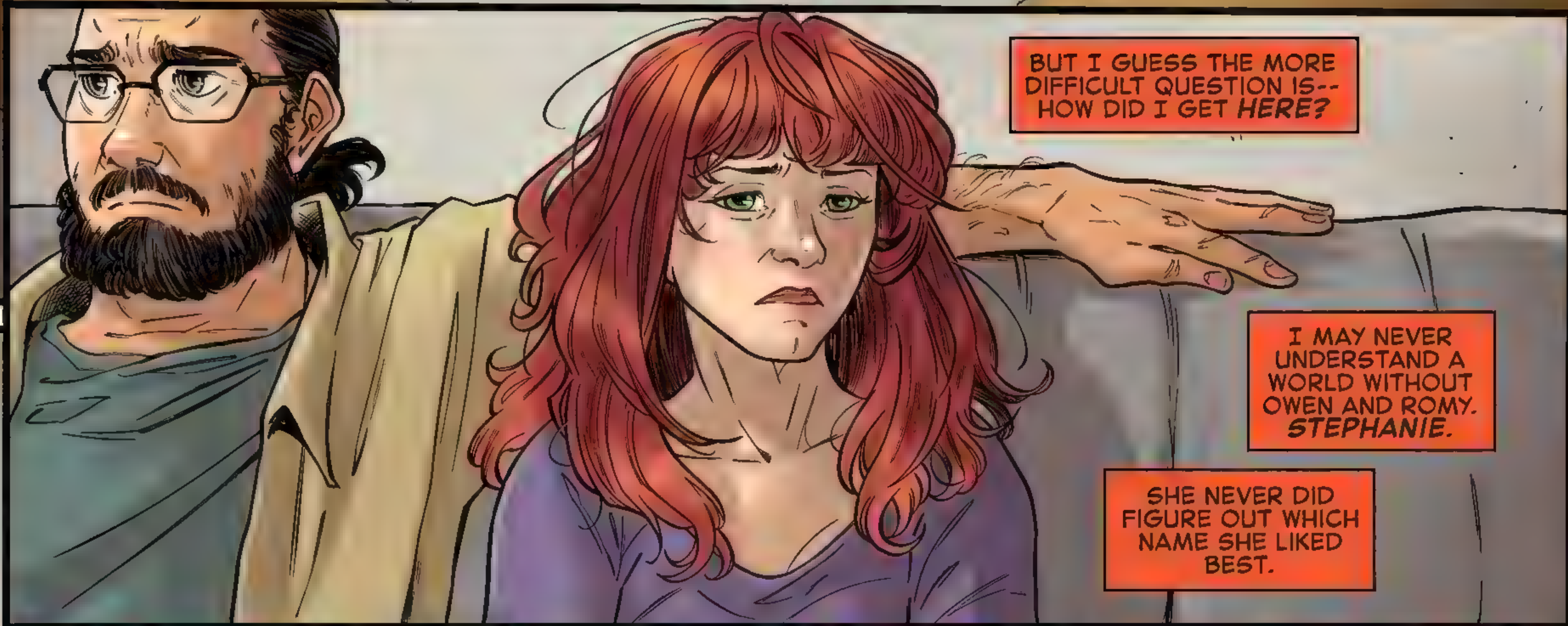
AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #31 VARIANT BY
GREG LAND & FRANK D'ARMATA



HOW DID I
GET HERE?

I DON'T EVEN
REMEMBER LEAVING
OUR APARTMENT. DID
WE DRIVE OVER? TAKE
THE SUBWAY?

IT'S OKAY
TO FEEL GRIEF.
AND IT'S OKAY
TO CRY.

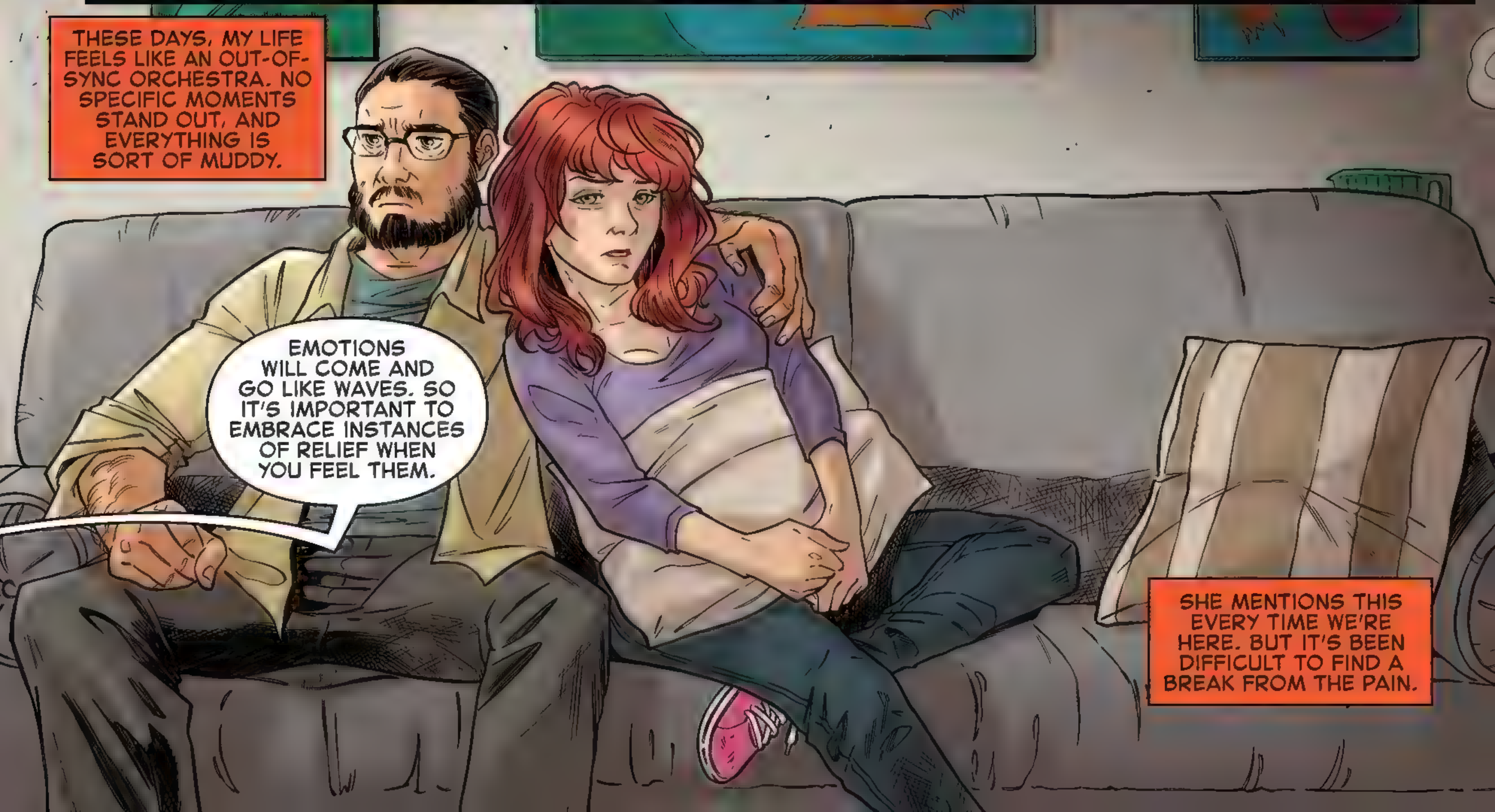


BUT I GUESS THE MORE
DIFFICULT QUESTION IS--
HOW DID I GET HERE?

I MAY NEVER
UNDERSTAND A
WORLD WITHOUT
OWEN AND ROMY.
STEPHANIE.

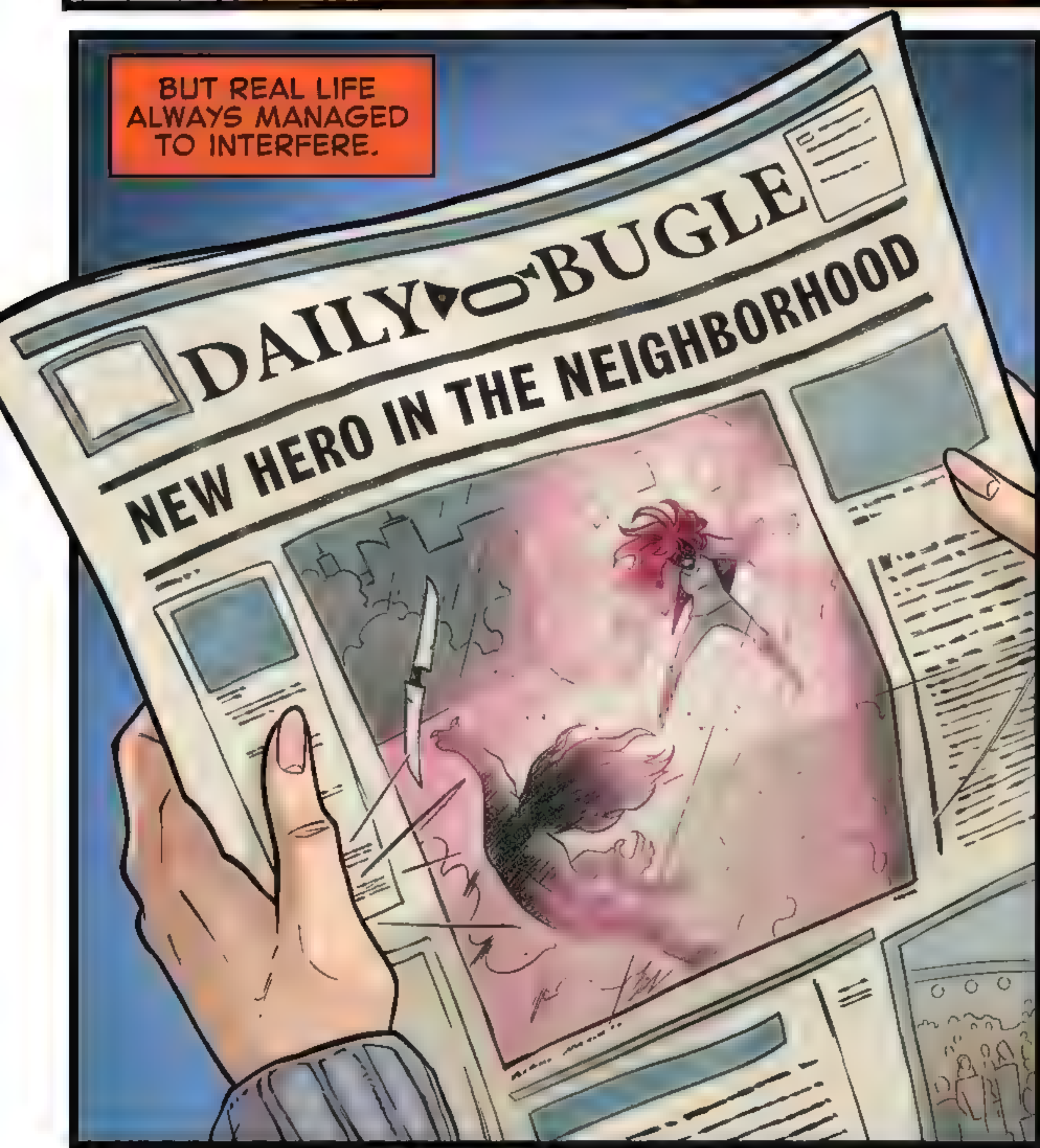
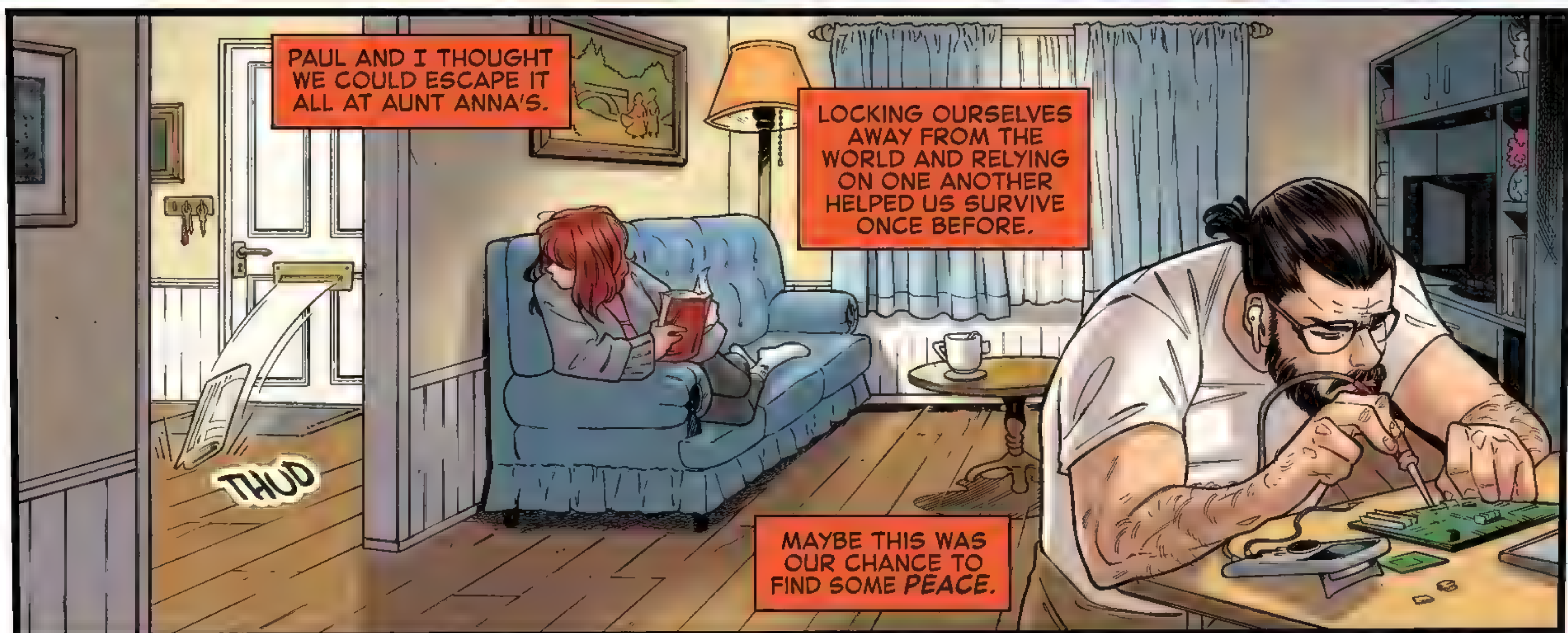
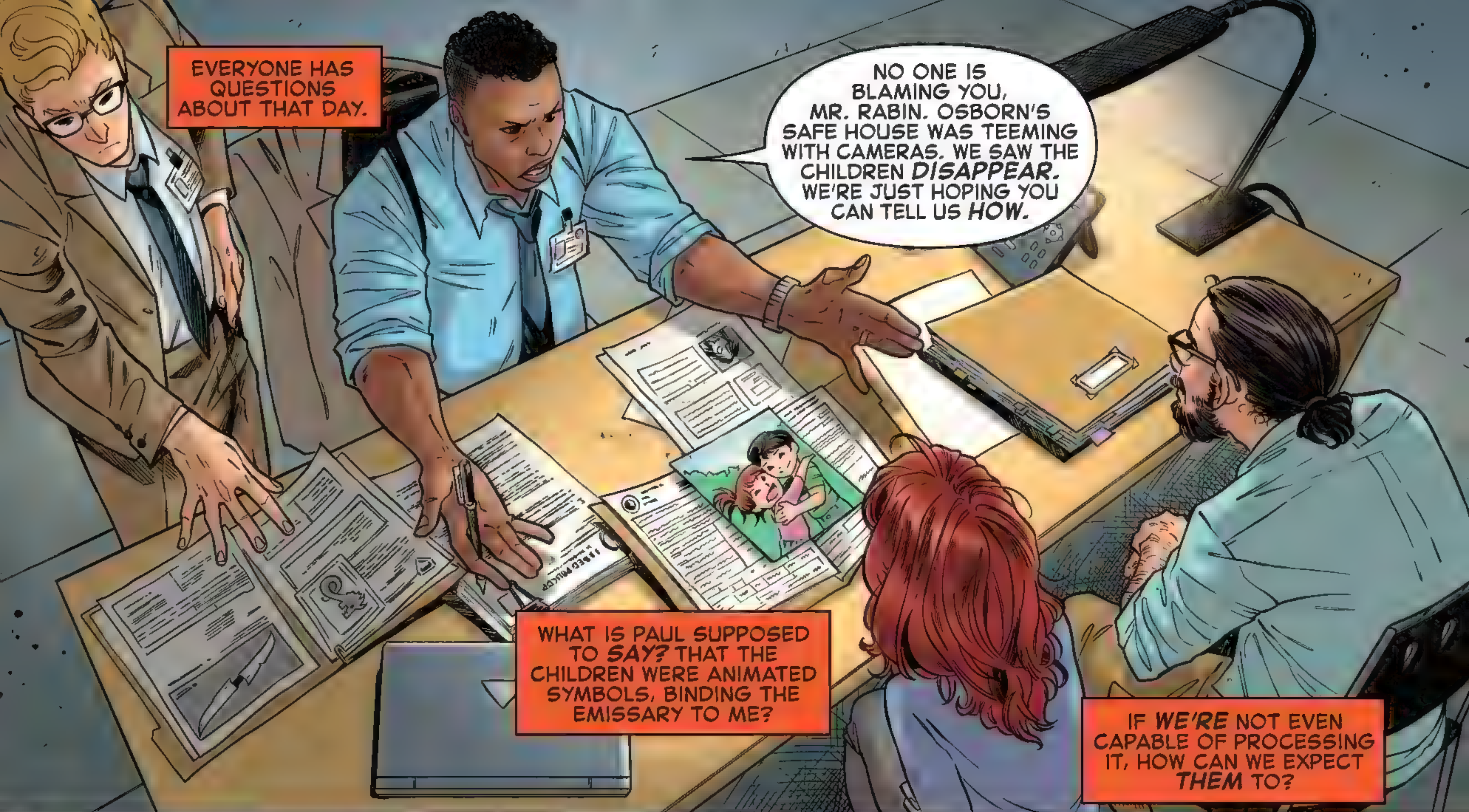
SHE NEVER DID
FIGURE OUT WHICH
NAME SHE LIKED
BEST.

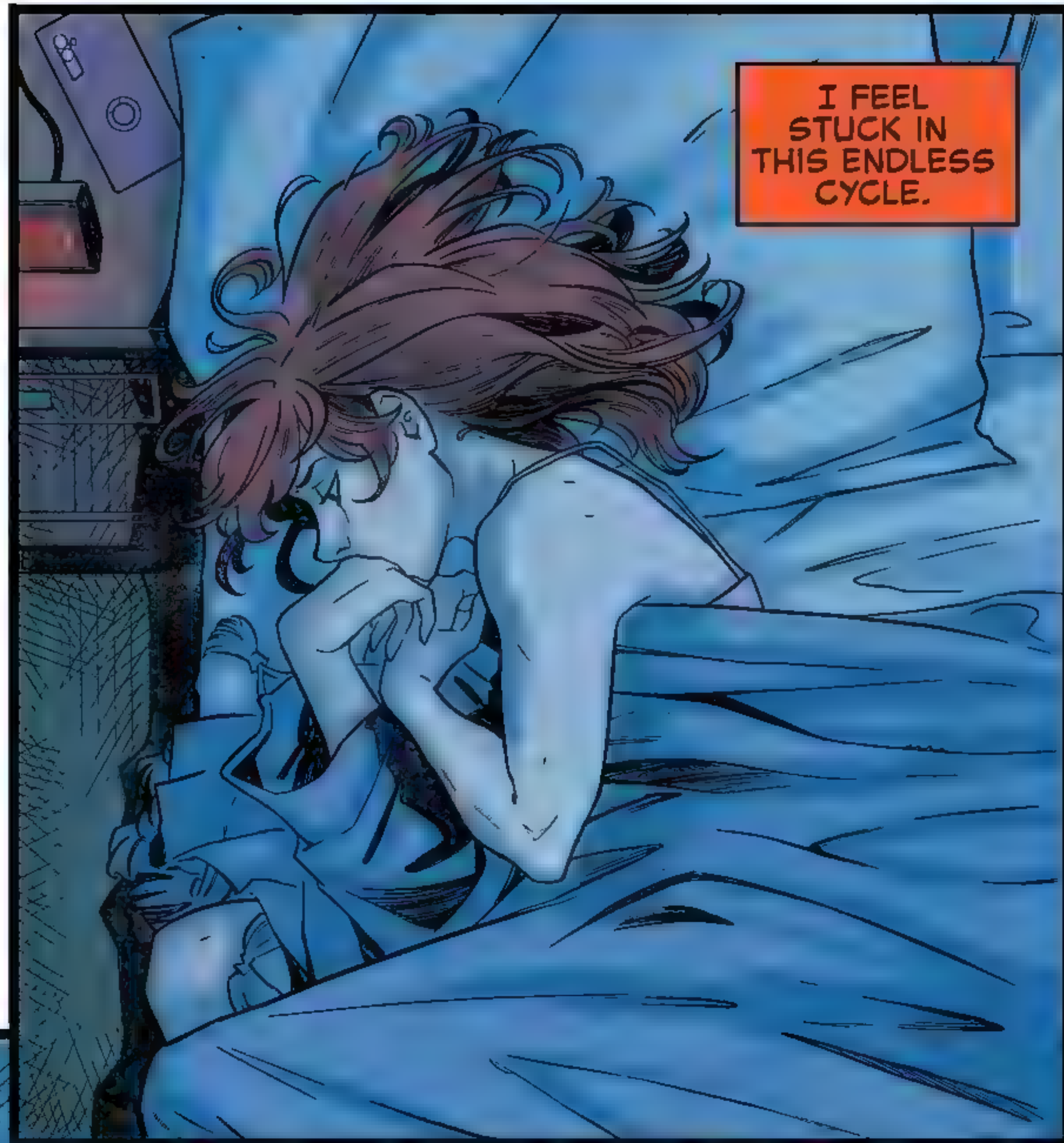
THESE DAYS, MY LIFE
FEELS LIKE AN OUT-OF-
SYNC ORCHESTRA. NO
SPECIFIC MOMENTS
STAND OUT, AND
EVERYTHING IS
SORT OF MUDDY.



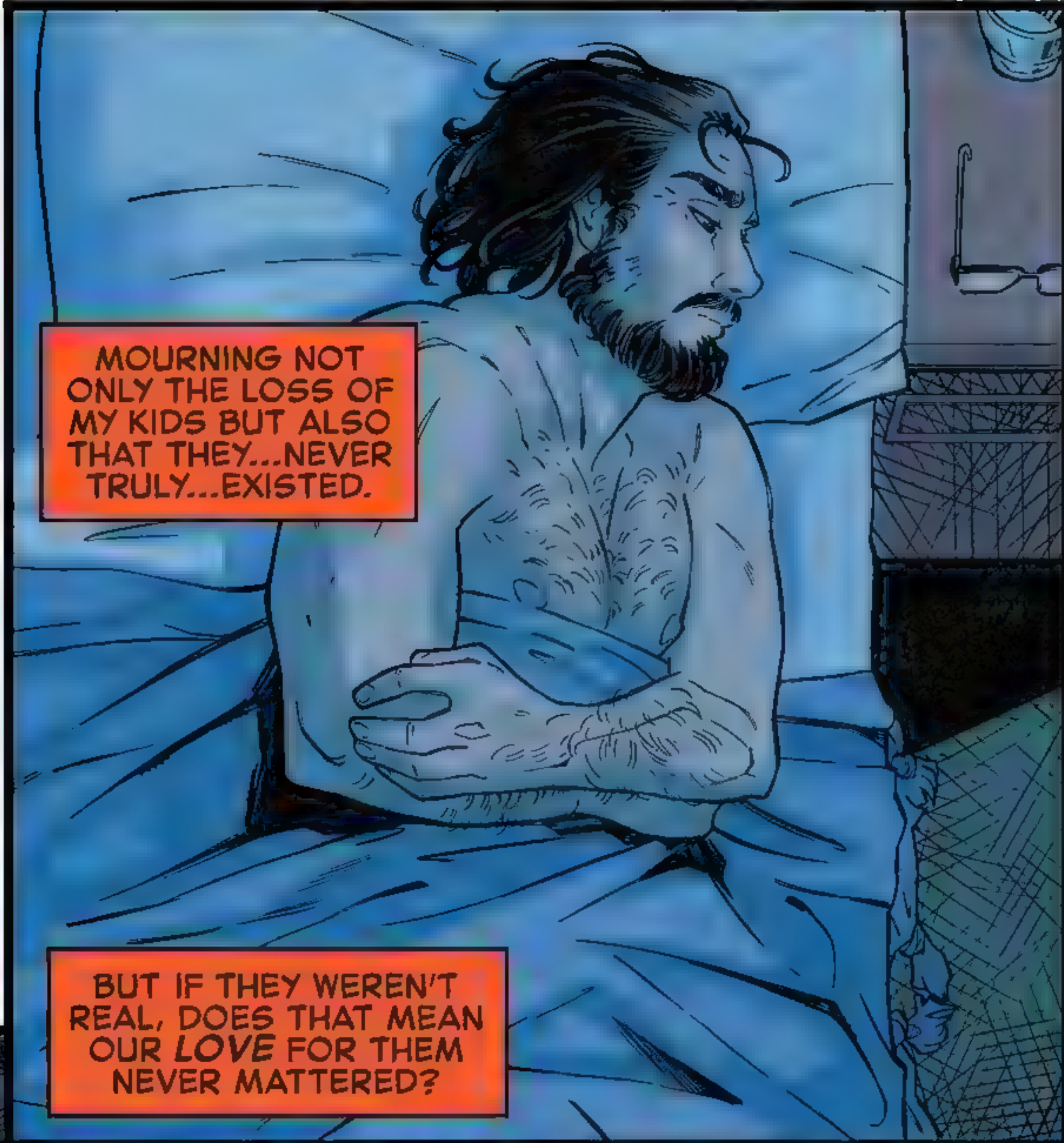
EMOTIONS
WILL COME AND
GO LIKE WAVES. SO
IT'S IMPORTANT TO
EMBRACE INSTANCES
OF RELIEF WHEN
YOU FEEL THEM.

SHE MENTIONS THIS
EVERY TIME WE'RE
HERE. BUT IT'S BEEN
DIFFICULT TO FIND A
BREAK FROM THE PAIN.



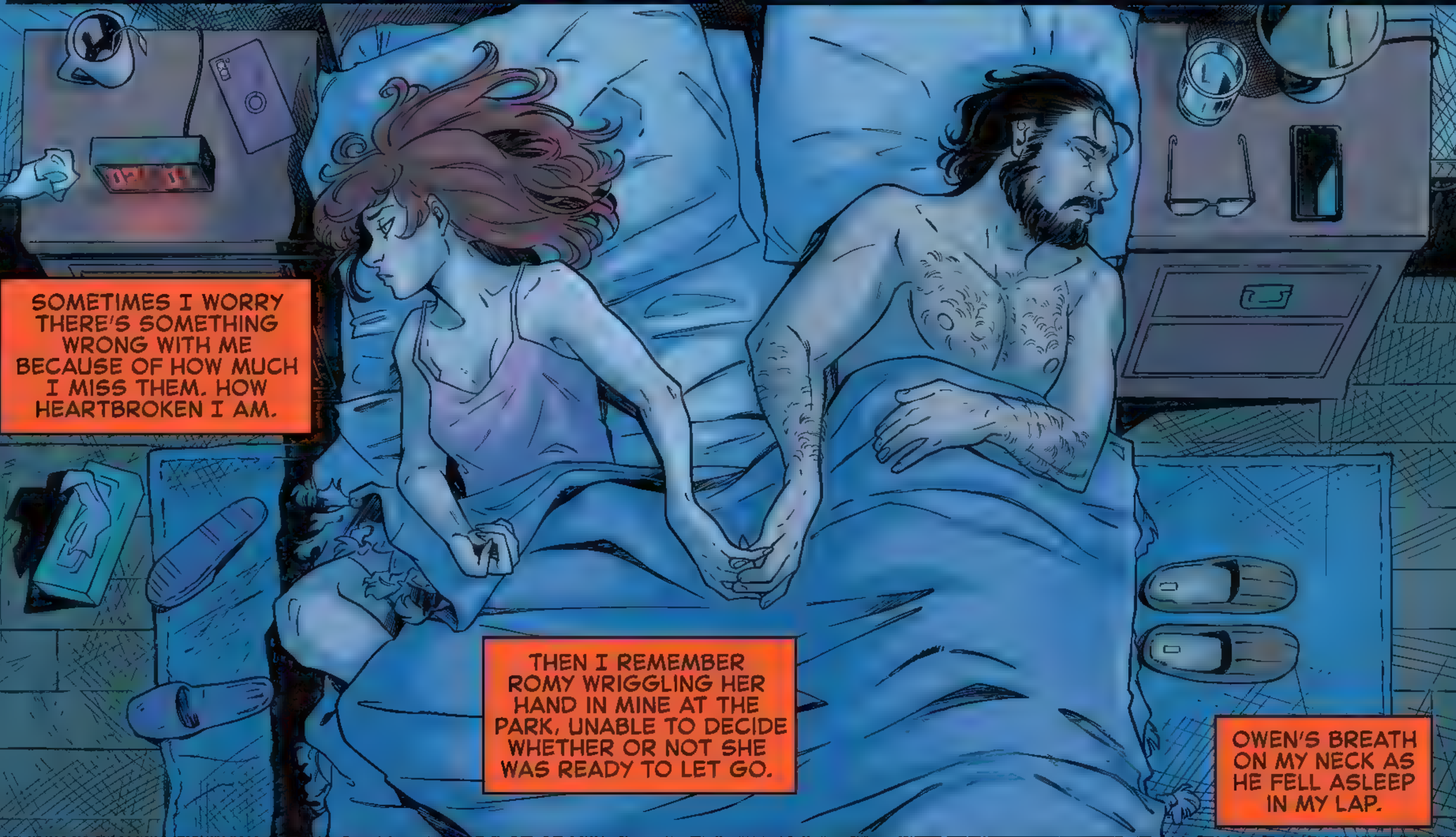


I FEEL
STUCK IN
THIS ENDLESS
CYCLE.



MOURNING NOT
ONLY THE LOSS OF
MY KIDS BUT ALSO
THAT THEY...NEVER
TRULY...EXISTED.

BUT IF THEY WEREN'T
REAL, DOES THAT MEAN
OUR LOVE FOR THEM
NEVER MATTERED?



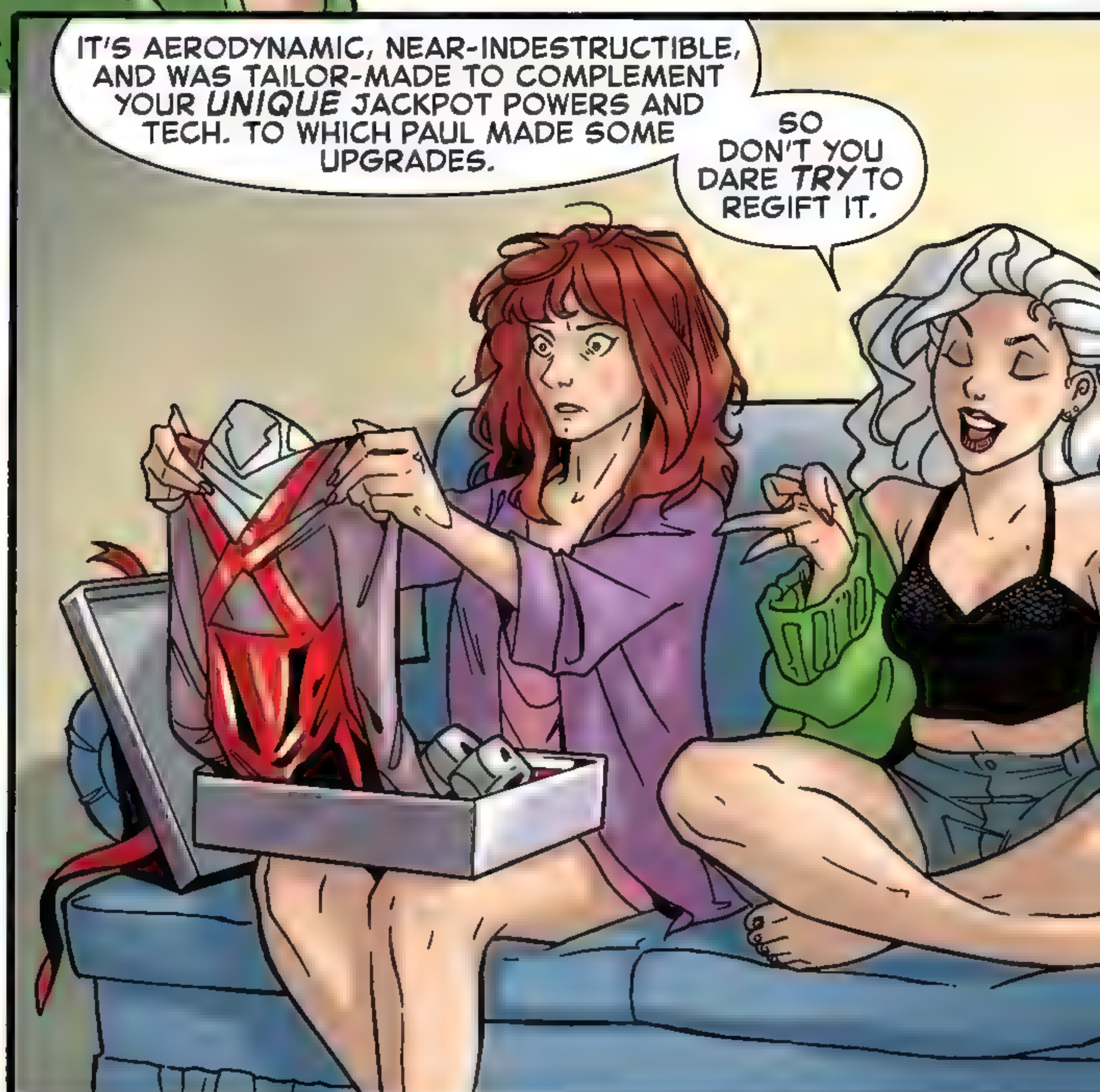
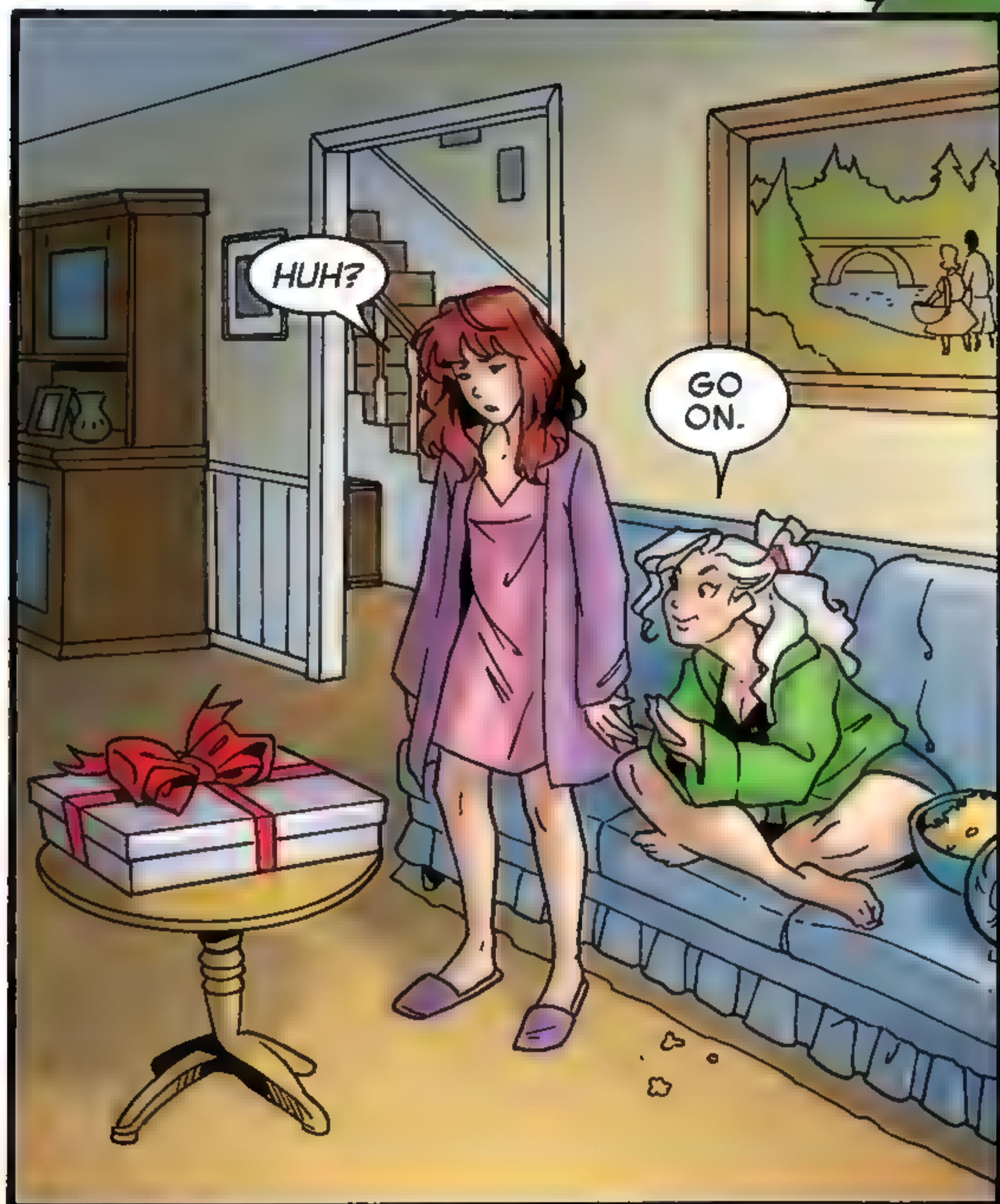
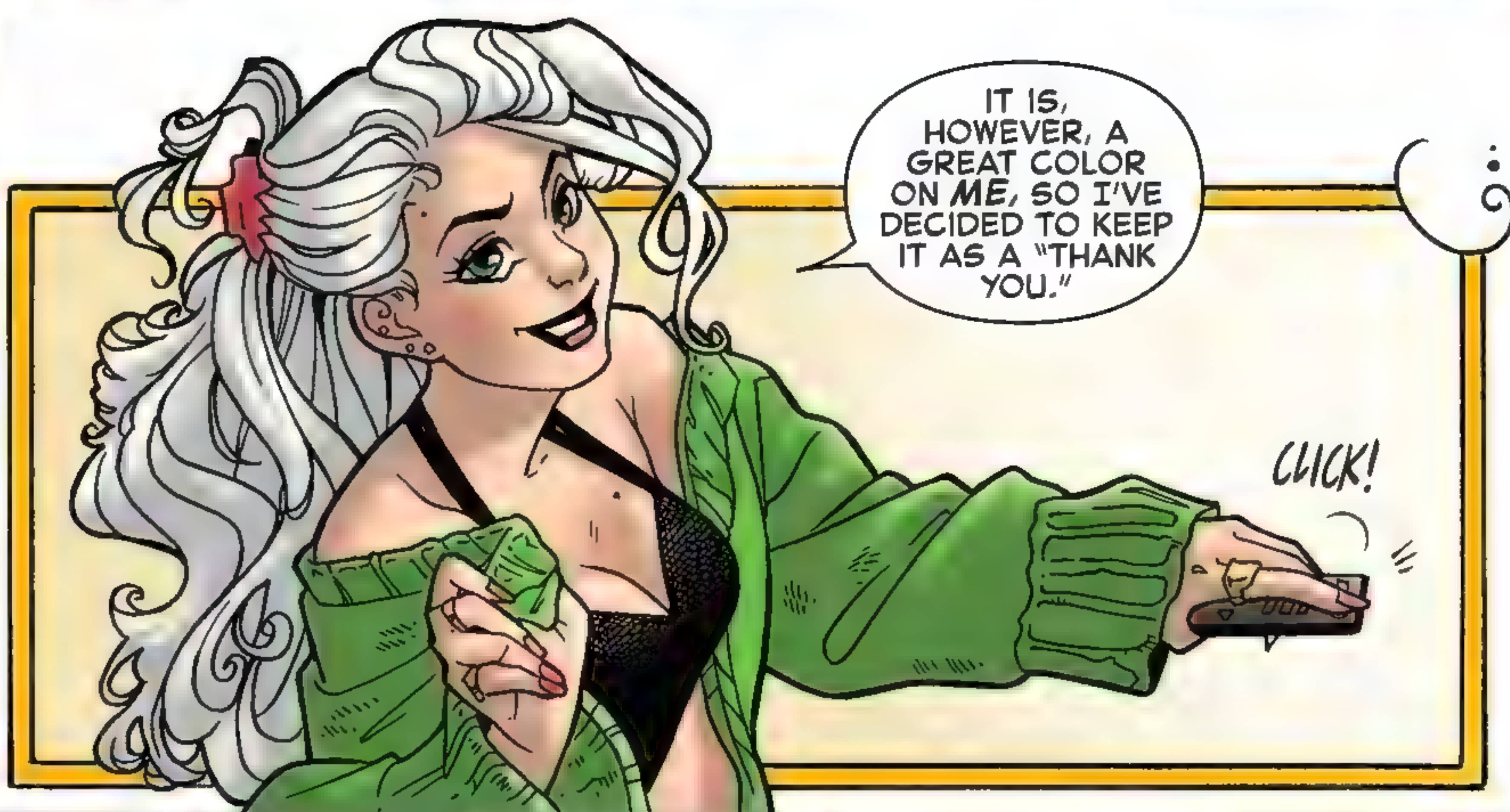
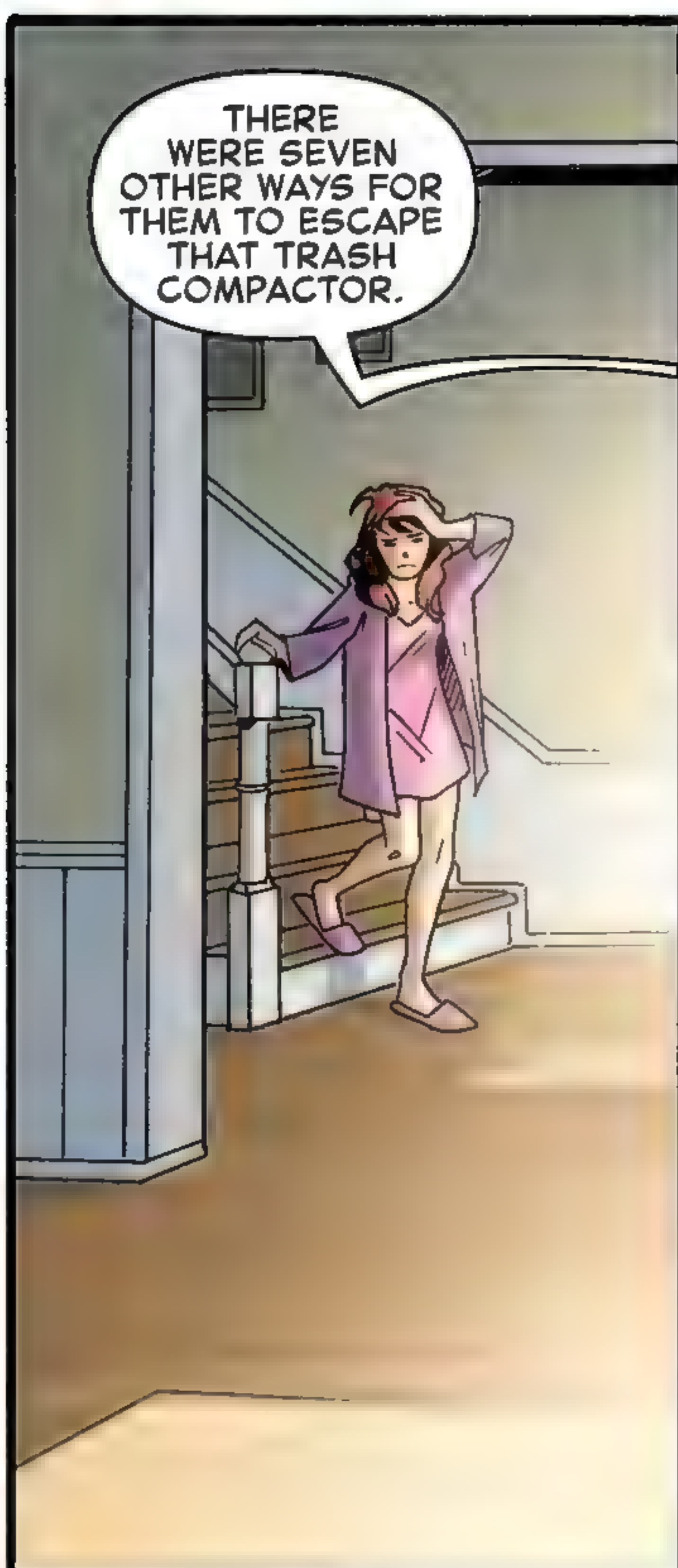
SOMETIMES I WORRY
THERE'S SOMETHING
WRONG WITH ME
BECAUSE OF HOW MUCH
I MISS THEM. HOW
HEARTBROKEN I AM.

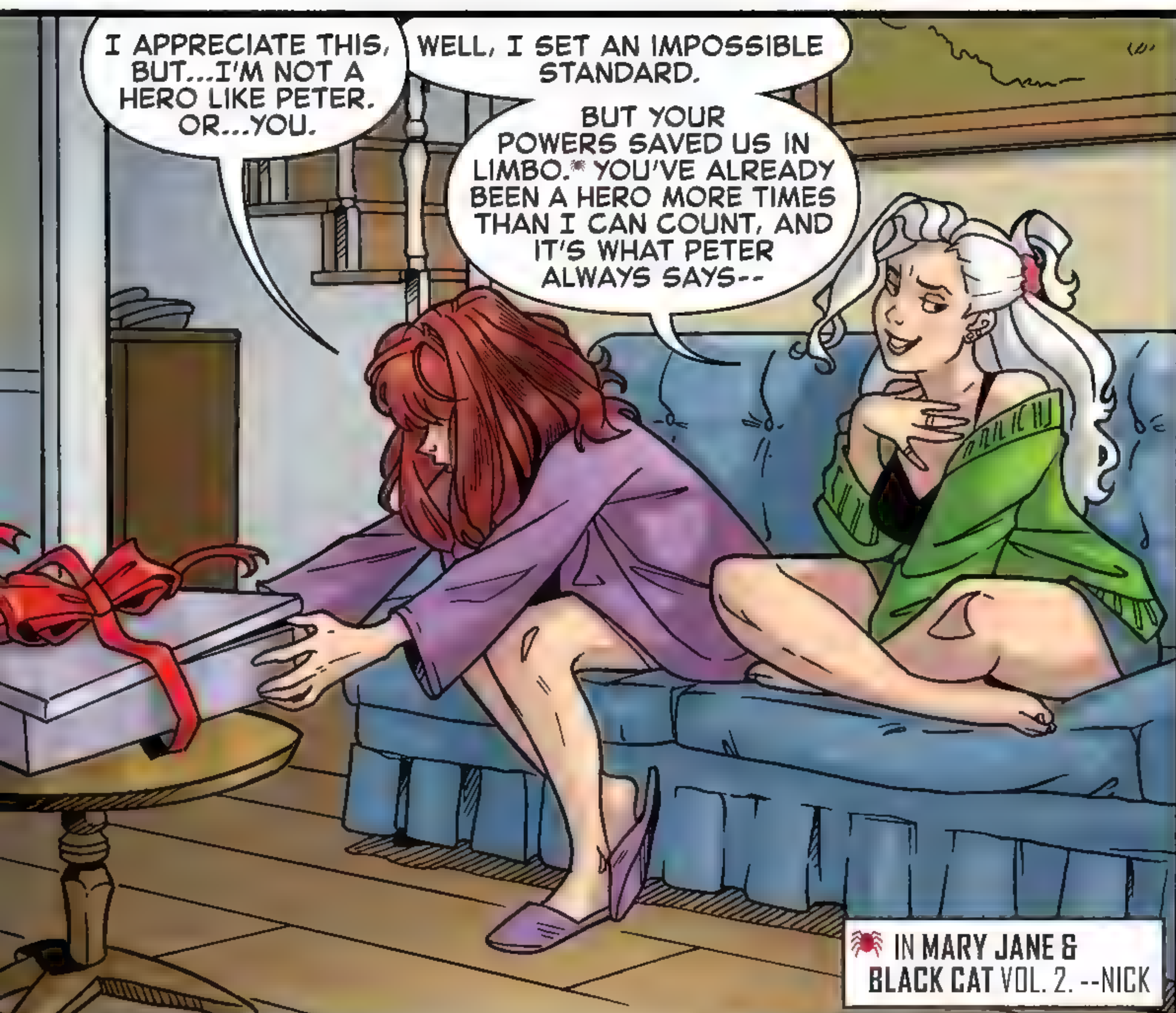
THEN I REMEMBER
ROMY WRIGGLING HER
HAND IN MINE AT THE
PARK, UNABLE TO DECIDE
WHETHER OR NOT SHE
WAS READY TO LET GO.

OWEN'S BREATH
ON MY NECK AS
HE FELL ASLEEP
IN MY LAP.



AND IT ALL FEELS SO
PAINFULLY REAL THAT
I DECIDE TO FORGET
FOR A MOMENT AND
JUST GRIEVE THE
CHILDREN I LOST.





I APPRECIATE THIS, BUT...I'M NOT A HERO LIKE PETER. OR...YOU.

WELL, I SET AN IMPOSSIBLE STANDARD.

BUT YOUR POWERS SAVED US IN LIMBO.* YOU'VE ALREADY BEEN A HERO MORE TIMES THAN I CAN COUNT, AND IT'S WHAT PETER ALWAYS SAYS--

IN MARY JANE & BLACK CAT VOL. 2. --NICK



"WITH GREAT GUILT COMES GREAT SADNESS THAT HOPEFULLY LEADS TO HELPING PEOPLE."



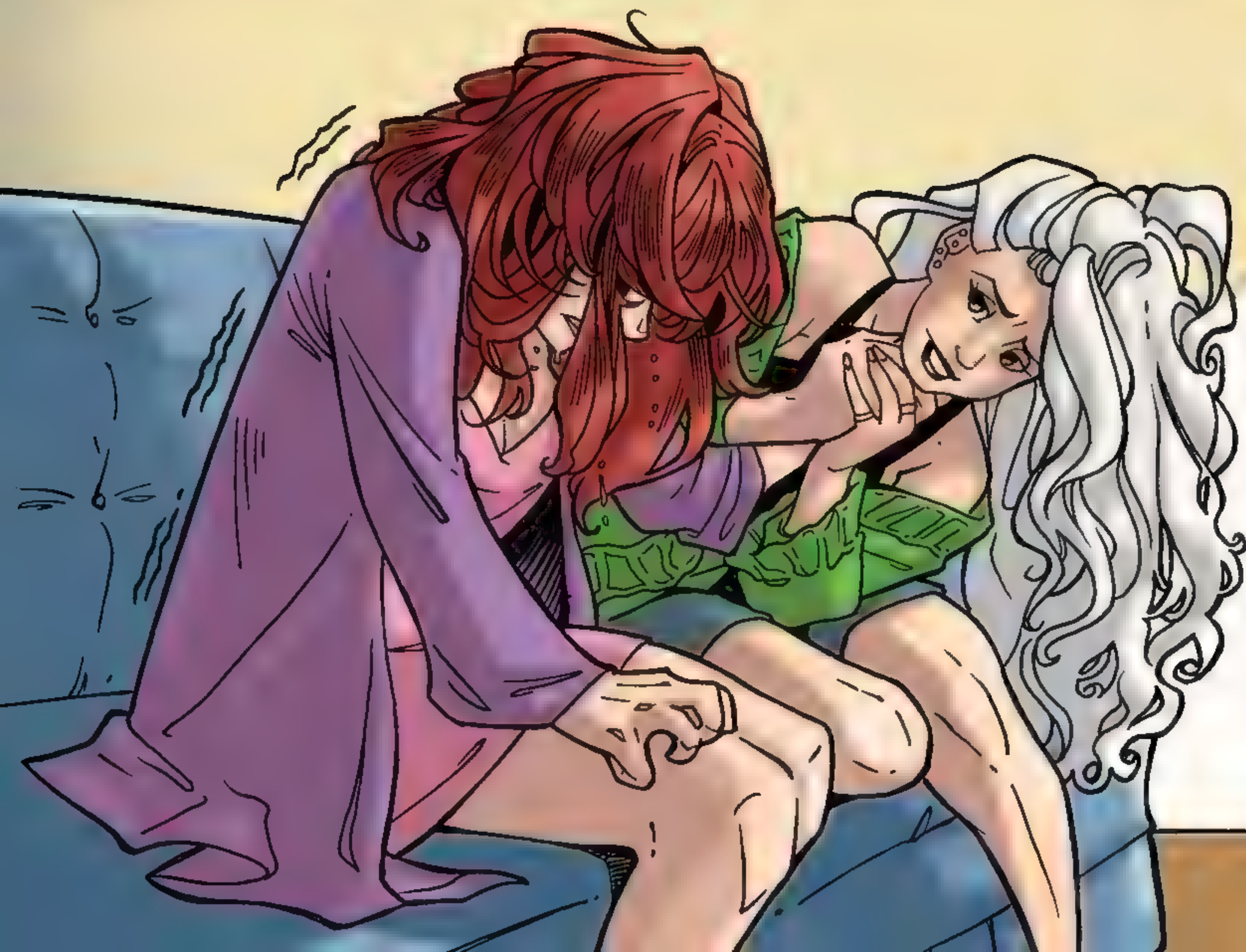
NOT QUITE, FELICIA.

THIS CITY. EVERYONE IN IT. THEY'RE BETTER OFF WITHOUT ME.



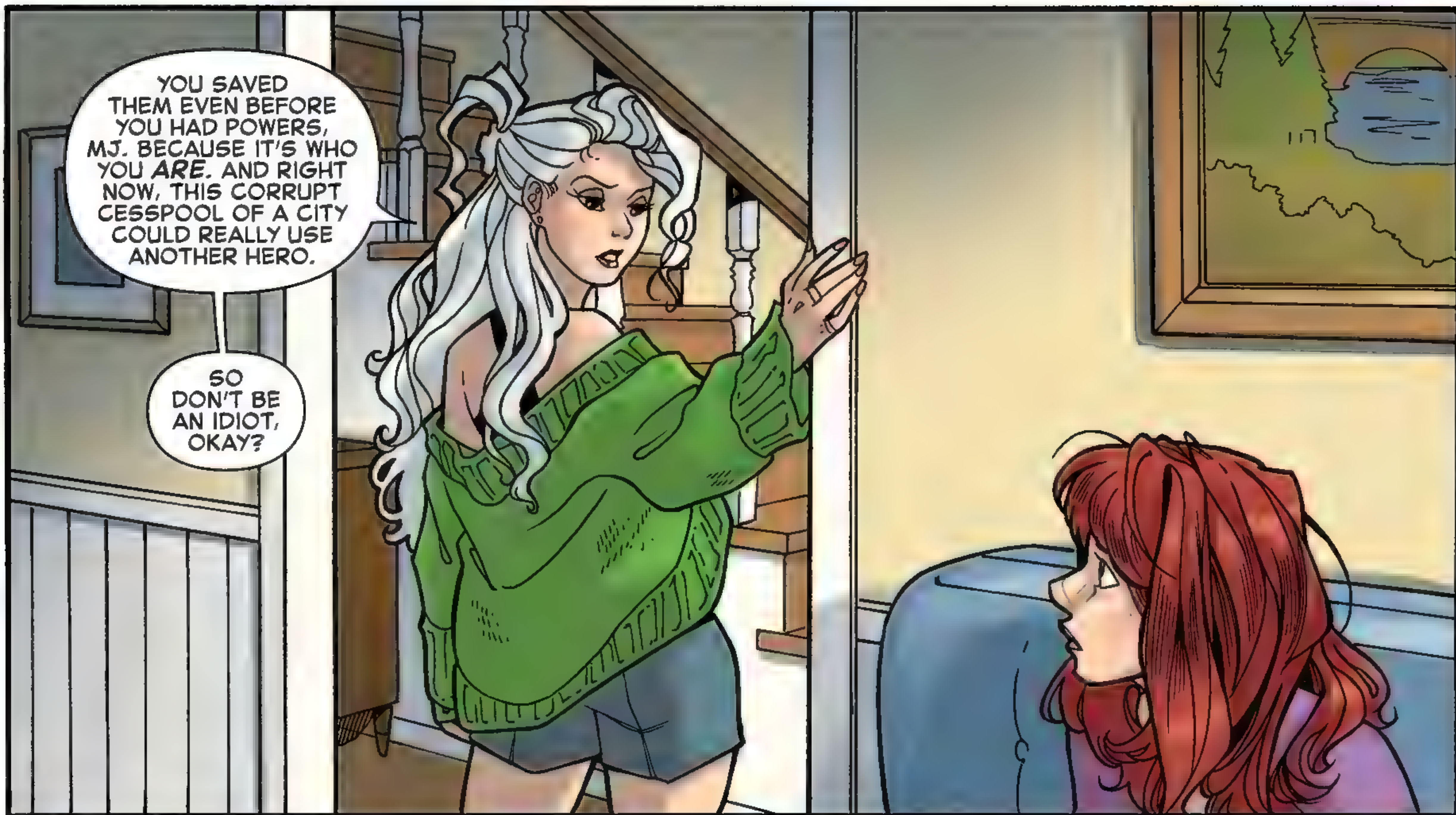
WHAT HAPPENED WITH ROMY AND OWEN WAS **NOT** YOUR FAULT.

I TOOK THE EMISSARY'S BAIT. I LOVED THOSE KIDS AND FOUGHT FOR THEM, AND IT PUT EVERYONE ELSE AT RISK.



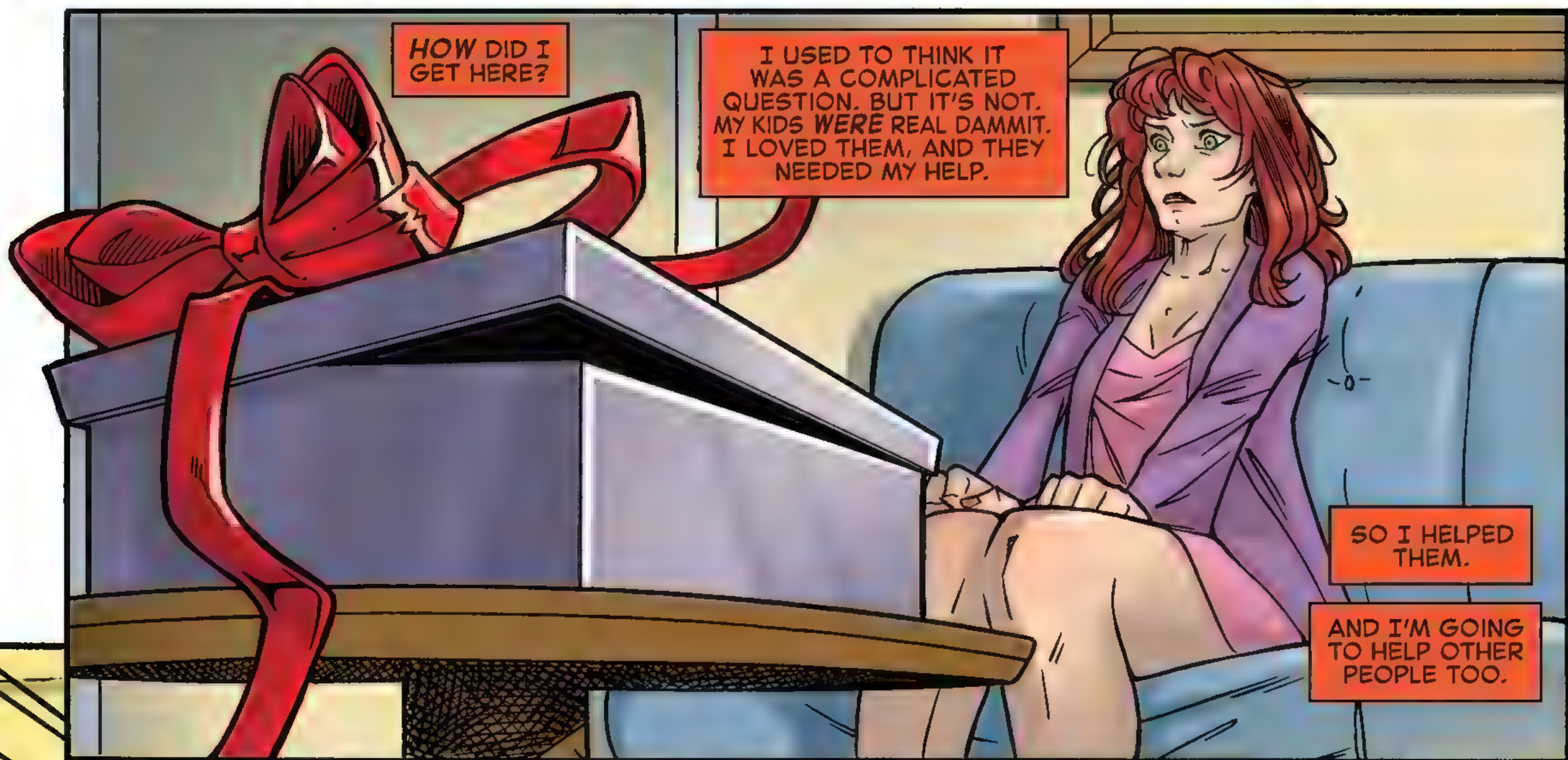
YOU TOOK THOSE KIDS IN BECAUSE THEY **NEEDED** YOUR HELP. USING YOUR HEART IS **NEVER** A MISTAKE.

AND SURE, MAYBE THEY WEREN'T THE SAME AS US, BUT WHAT DOES IT **MATTER?** THE WAY YOU LOVED AND FOUGHT FOR THEM WAS **REAL.**



YOU SAVED THEM EVEN BEFORE YOU HAD POWERS, MJ. BECAUSE IT'S WHO YOU ARE. AND RIGHT NOW, THIS CORRUPT CESSPOOL OF A CITY COULD REALLY USE ANOTHER HERO.

SO DON'T BE AN IDIOT, OKAY?



HOW DID I GET HERE?

I USED TO THINK IT WAS A COMPLICATED QUESTION. BUT IT'S NOT. MY KIDS WERE REAL DAMMIT. I LOVED THEM, AND THEY NEEDED MY HELP.

SO I HELPED THEM.

AND I'M GOING TO HELP OTHER PEOPLE TOO.



AND THAT'S WHERE I'VE GOT AN ADVANTAGE.



PETER HAS SAID IT FOR YEARS, AND NOW I THINK I FINALLY UNDERSTAND...

HELP!

WITH GREAT
POWER THERE
MUST ALSO
COME GREAT
RESPONSIBILITY.

FACE IT, NEW
YORK CITY, YOU
JUST HIT THE
JACKPOT!



GANG WAR

TERRITORIES



OUR CHOICES LEAD
US EXACTLY WHERE
WE'RE MEANT TO BE.



EARLIER
THAT DAY.

IT'S NICE TO
SEE YOU BOTH
IN SUCH GOOD
SPIRITS.

SHALL WE
DISCUSS THOSE
JOURNAL EXERCISES
I ASSIGNED LAST
WEEK?

I'VE GOT
MINE RIGHT
HERE.

BROWN-
NOSER.

VERY NICE, HOW DID YOU FIND
PAUL.

THE QUESTIONS,
MARY JANE?

WELL...
THE PLAN
WAS TO DO THE
EXERCISES,
BUT...

SOMETHING
STOPPED YOU.

... I THINK
I'VE BEEN FINDING
IT DIFFICULT TO PUT MY
FEARS DOWN ON THE PAGE.
IT'S ALMOST LIKE WRITING
THEM DOWN GIVES THEM
MORE POWER.

UNEARTHING
YOUR FEARS CAN BE
DIFFICULT, BUT I PROMISE
CONFRONTING THEM CAN
OFTENTIMES BRING
CLARITY.

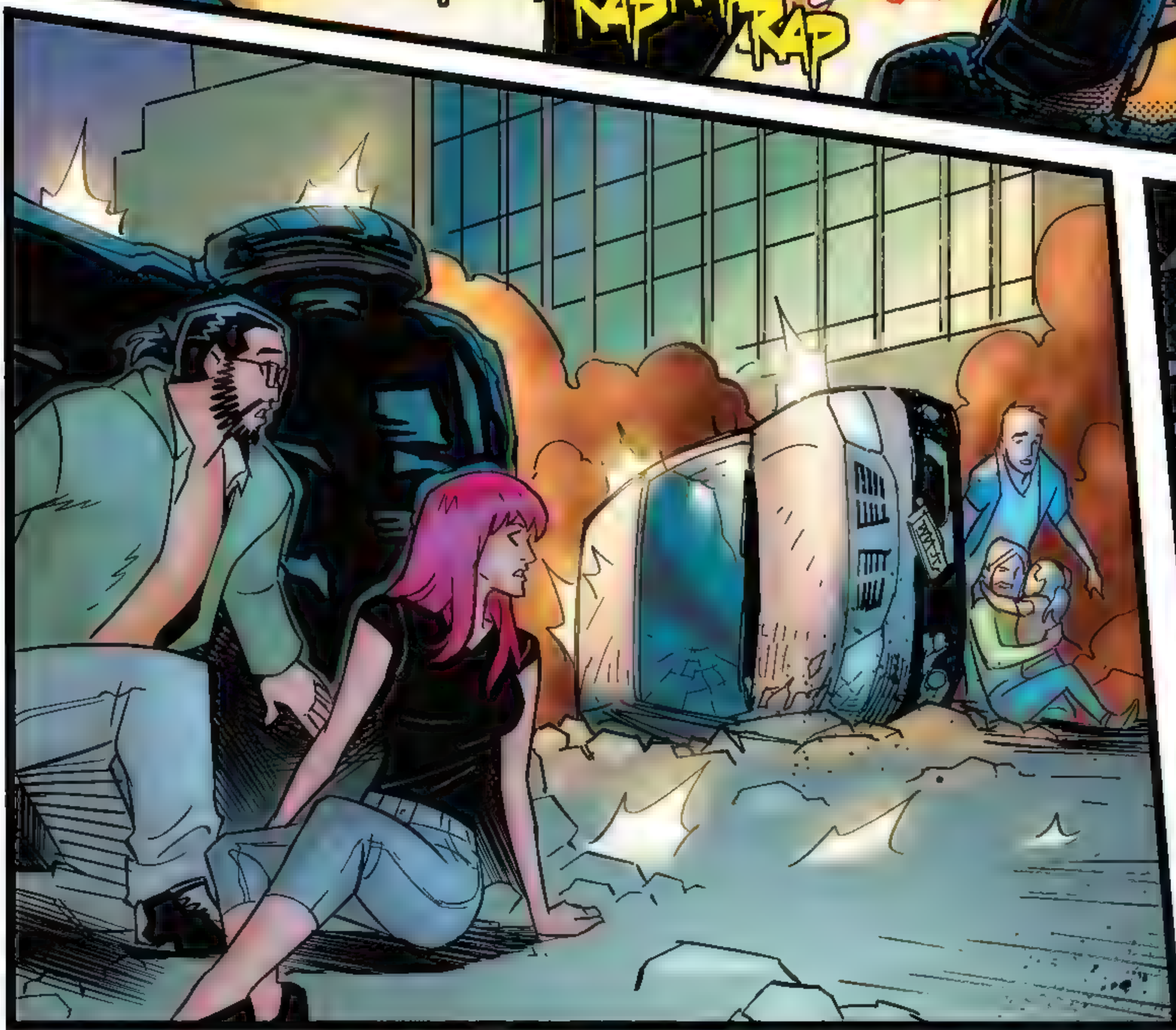
SHOW US A
PATH THROUGH
THE DARK.

I'LL TRY TO
GET THROUGH
THE QUESTIONS
THIS WEEK.

NO RUSH.
THE WAY YOU'VE
OPENED UP NOW ALREADY
SHOWS IMMENSE
PROGRESS.

BROWN-
NOSER.











THE
MODIFICATIONS
SEEM TO BE
WORKING...SO
FAR, PAUL.

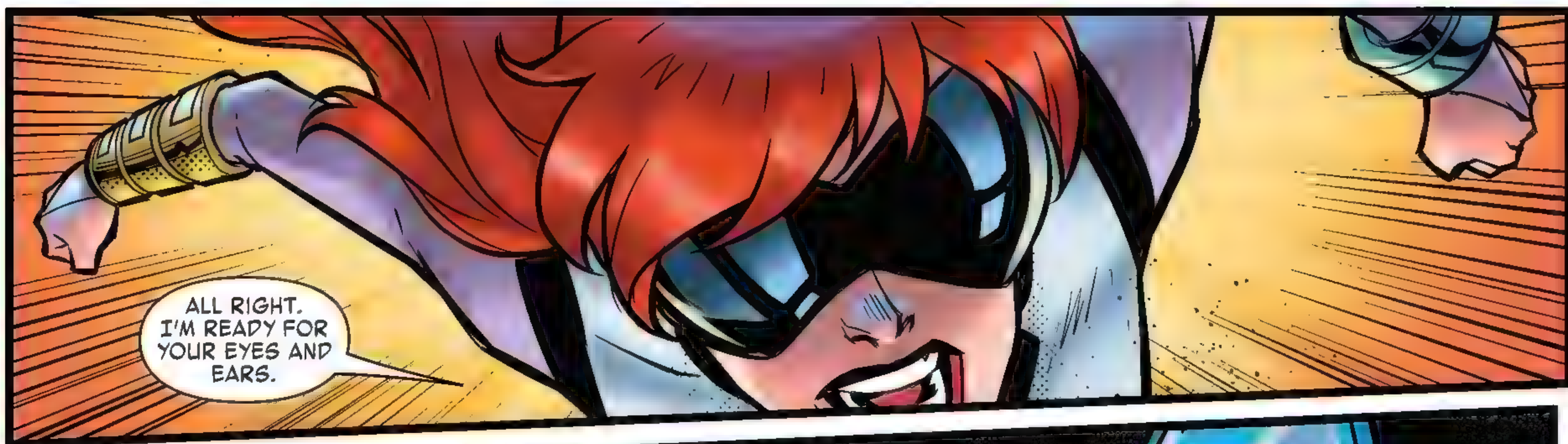
THE
POWER LIMITER
WAS SUPPOSED TO
HELP WITH YOUR
ANXIETY.

WELL THE
CITY'S GOING
UP IN FLAMES, AND
THE LIMITER'S JUST
REDUCED MY BEST
SUPER POWER
OUTCOMES.

IT'S ALSO
MINIMIZED YOUR
WEAKEST ONES. AND
HOPEFULLY MADE THE,
YOU KNOW, CERTAIN-
DEATH POSSIBILITY
IMPOSSIBLE.

I SPENT
DAYS FINE-
TUNING THESE
LEVELS.

I KNOW.



ALL RIGHT.
I'M READY FOR
YOUR EYES AND
EARS.

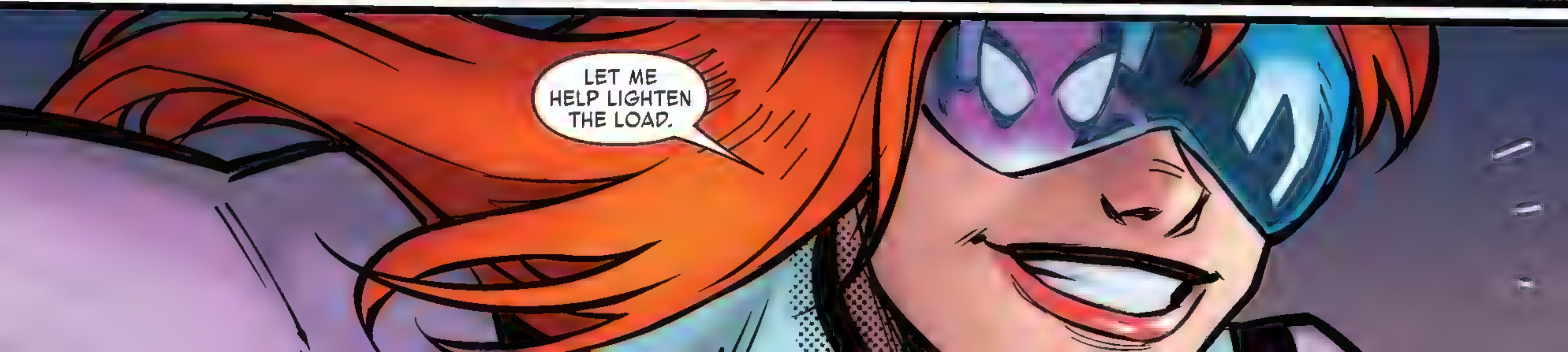


LOOKS LIKE
THE MENAGERIE
IS MAKING A BIG
MOVE.



HEADING
TOWARD THE
SMOKE SIGNAL
NOW.

THE BRONX.

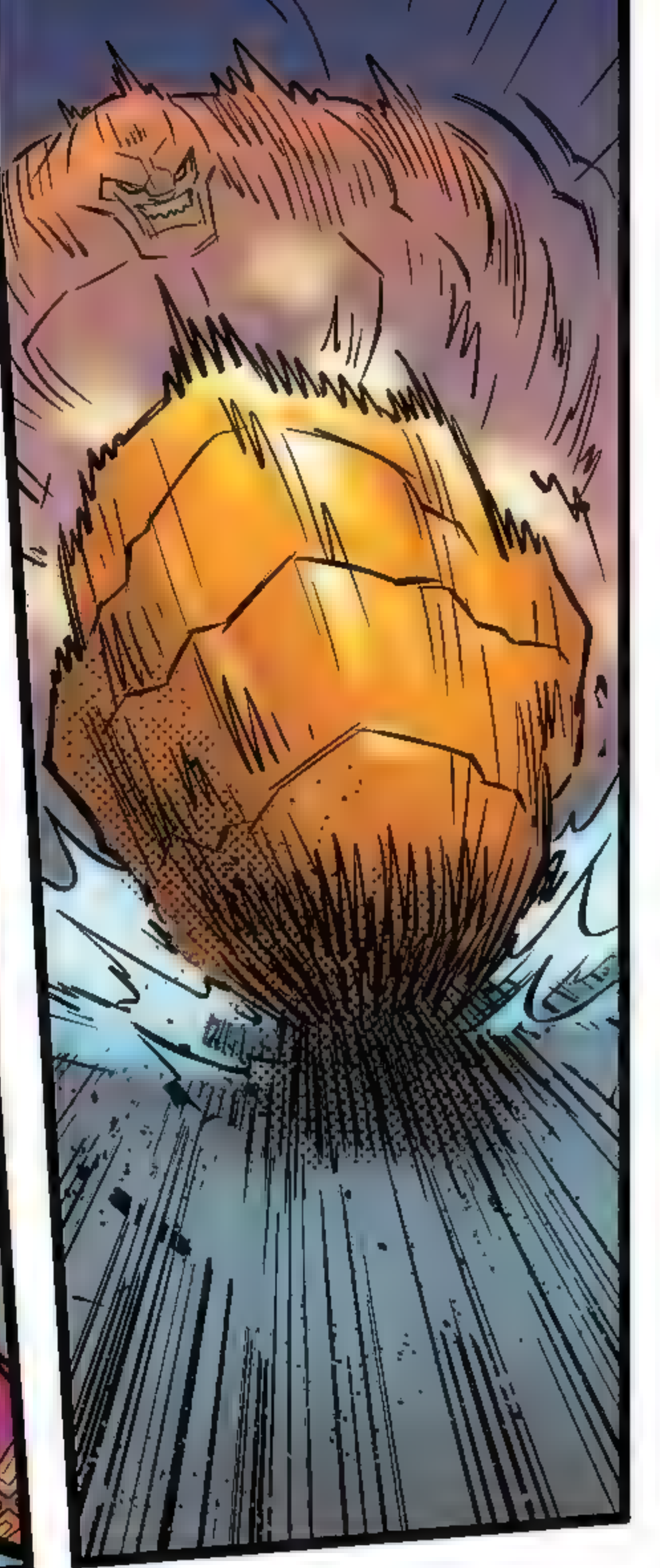




HEY,
OVER HERE!

BROUGHT A
FRIEND, SPIDER-
MAN?

THAT'S FINE.
THE HARDER YOU
FIGHT, THE HARDER
YOU'RE GONNA
FALL!



VERY
WISE WORDS,
ARMADILLO!



LIKING
THESE VINE
POWERS. THEY WORK
WELL WITH YOUR
WEBS.



THAT'S
WHAT WE CALL
POETIC JUSTICE,
ARMADILLO.



LIKE THE HORNS? I JUST GOT THEM SHARPENED.

HOPE THEY GAVE YOU A DISCOUNT, BECAUSE YOUR PROPERTY-DAMAGE FINES HERE ARE REALLY RACKING UP.

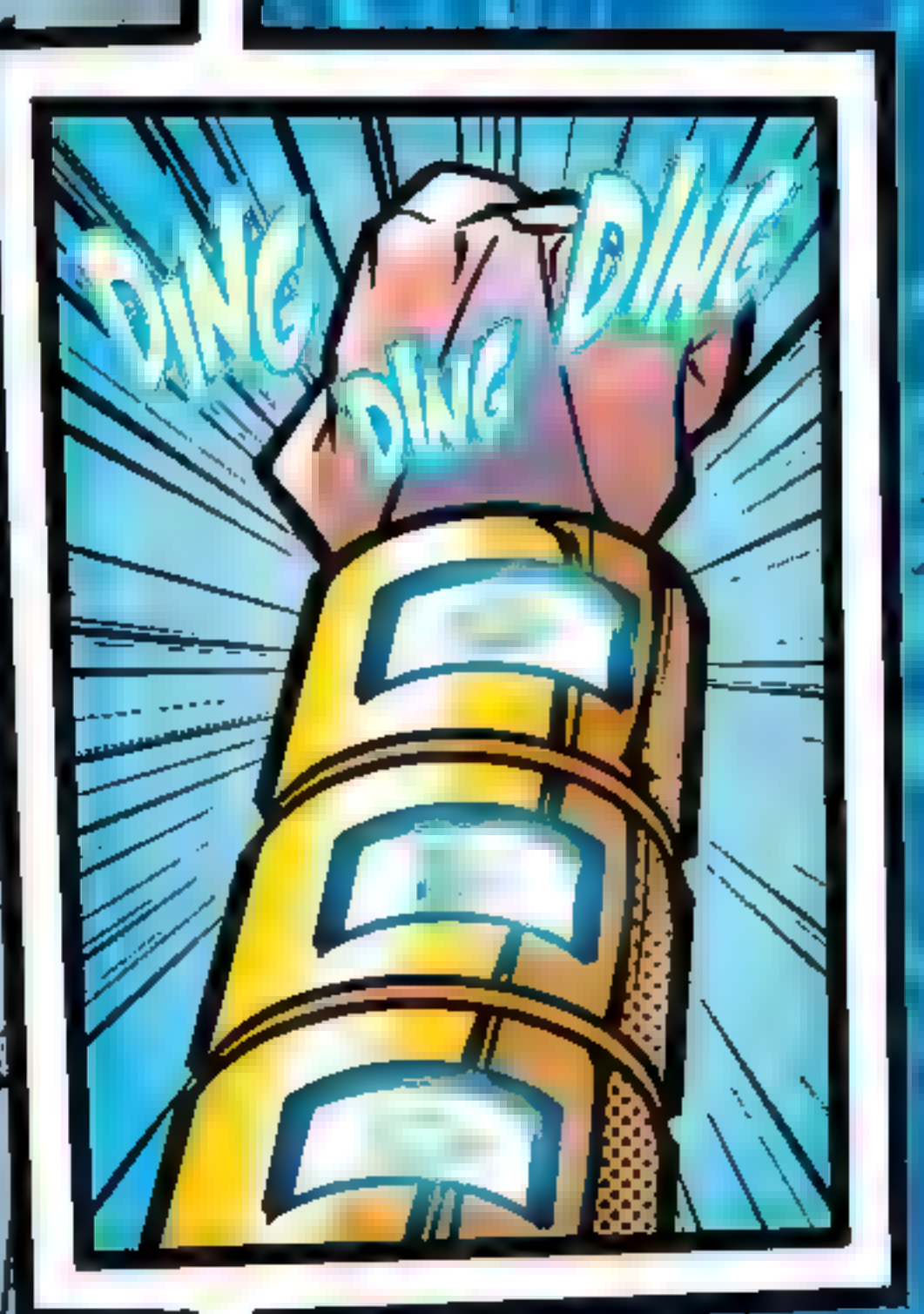
OH, MJ, YOU'VE MET SHE-HULK, RIGHT? SHE'S HELPING WITH THIS WHOLE GANG WAR THING.



LET'S HELP HER OUT, THEN.



YOU'D BETTER ASK HIM.



THIS IS GOING TO STING, MAN-BULL.



APPRECIATE THE ASSIST.

I WAS JUST LOOKING OUT FOR THAT POOR BULL'S BANK ACCOUNT.



SHE-HULK.

JACKPOT.

WELL, JACKPOT. IF YOU'RE EVER IN NEED OF LEGAL ADVICE, I'D LOVE TO RETURN THE FAVOR.

YOU'LL DEFINITELY NEED IT IF YOU KEEP HANGING AROUND THAT GUY.

JUST HEARD BACK FROM THE OTHER SPIEY. HE'S GOT A SITUATION WITH HOBGOBLIN NEAR THE MANHATTAN BRIDGE.

WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT?

I WAS GOING TO TAKE THOSE IDIOTS DOWN.



BUT
I GUESS I'LL
SETTLE FOR YOU
BONEHEADS
INSTEAD.

AN
ARMADILLO,
A BULL, AND NOW
THIS CLOWN.
OH MY!

MY LEAST
FAVORITE ELECTRO.
JUST WHAT
I NEED...

GO
REGROUP.
I'VE GOT YOU
COVERED.

BE
SAFE.

THAT'S
SUPPOSED
TO BE MY
LINE.
NOW
GO!



AW!
WHAT CUTE,
SHINY TECH
YOU HAVE.

ALL THE
BETTER TO
DEFEAT YOU
WITH.

AW SWEETIE,
YOU'RE ALL STYLE.
NO SUBSTANCE.

ARGHHH!

WHAA!

THUD
THUD

BACK IN THE NOW!

JACKPOT...
WHAT A DUMB
NAME.

LIKE I SAID, LIFE
IS ALL ABOUT THE
CHOICES WE MAKE.

NOT
SURE WHAT CASINO
GAVE YOU THESE KIDDIE-
CORNER POWERS, BUT THEY
SHOULD HAVE TOLD YOU--
WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS
SHOULD *STAY* IN
VEGAS.

OOO...YOUR
ELECTRICITY IS
RUSHING RIGHT
THROUGH ME.
I NEED
MORE!

NOW,
THAT'S A
HIGH!

COME
ON, COME
ON.

AND I'VE GOTTA BELIEVE
IF MY CHOICES GOT ME
INTO THIS MESS, THEY CAN
GET ME OUT OF IT TOO.

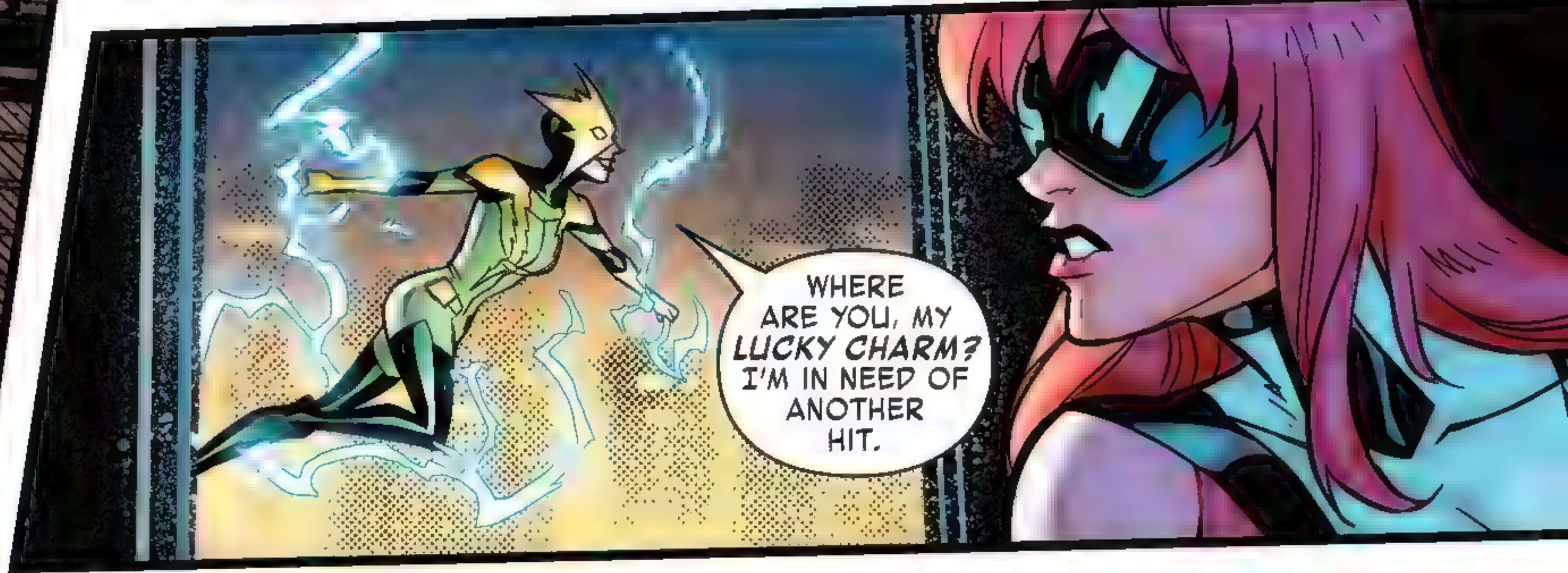


THERE WE GO.

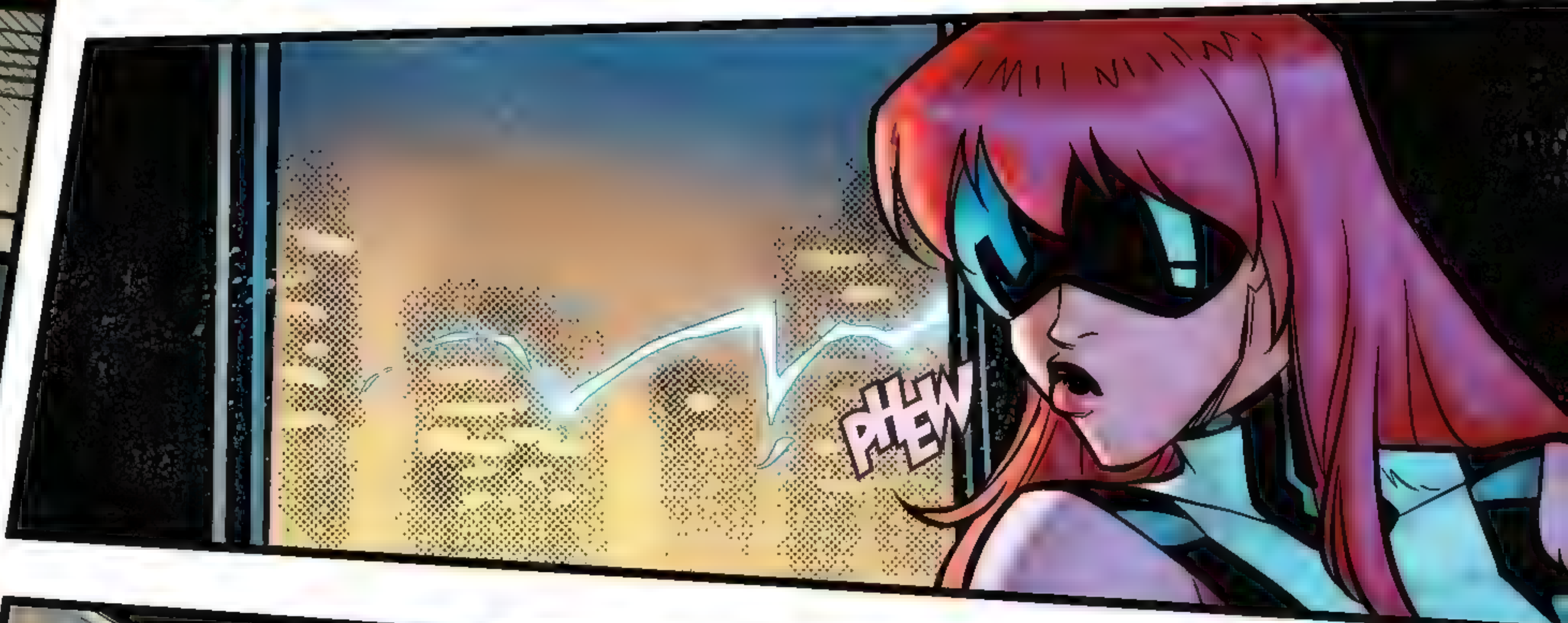
YOW!



OH, JACK-Y, JACK-Y, JACKPOT!



WHERE ARE YOU, MY LUCKY CHARM? I'M IN NEED OF ANOTHER HIT.

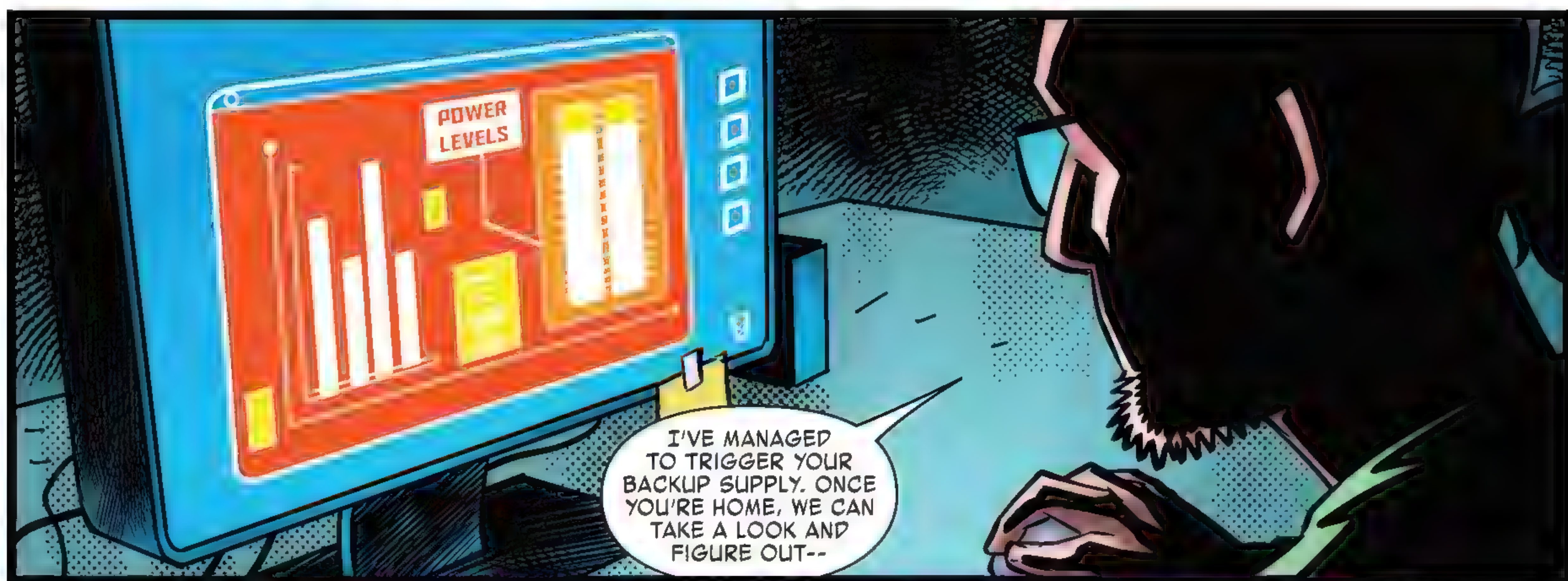


PHEW



WORK, DAMMIT!

TZZT TZZT







OH, JP?
COME OUT, COME
OUT, WHEREVER
YOU ARE!

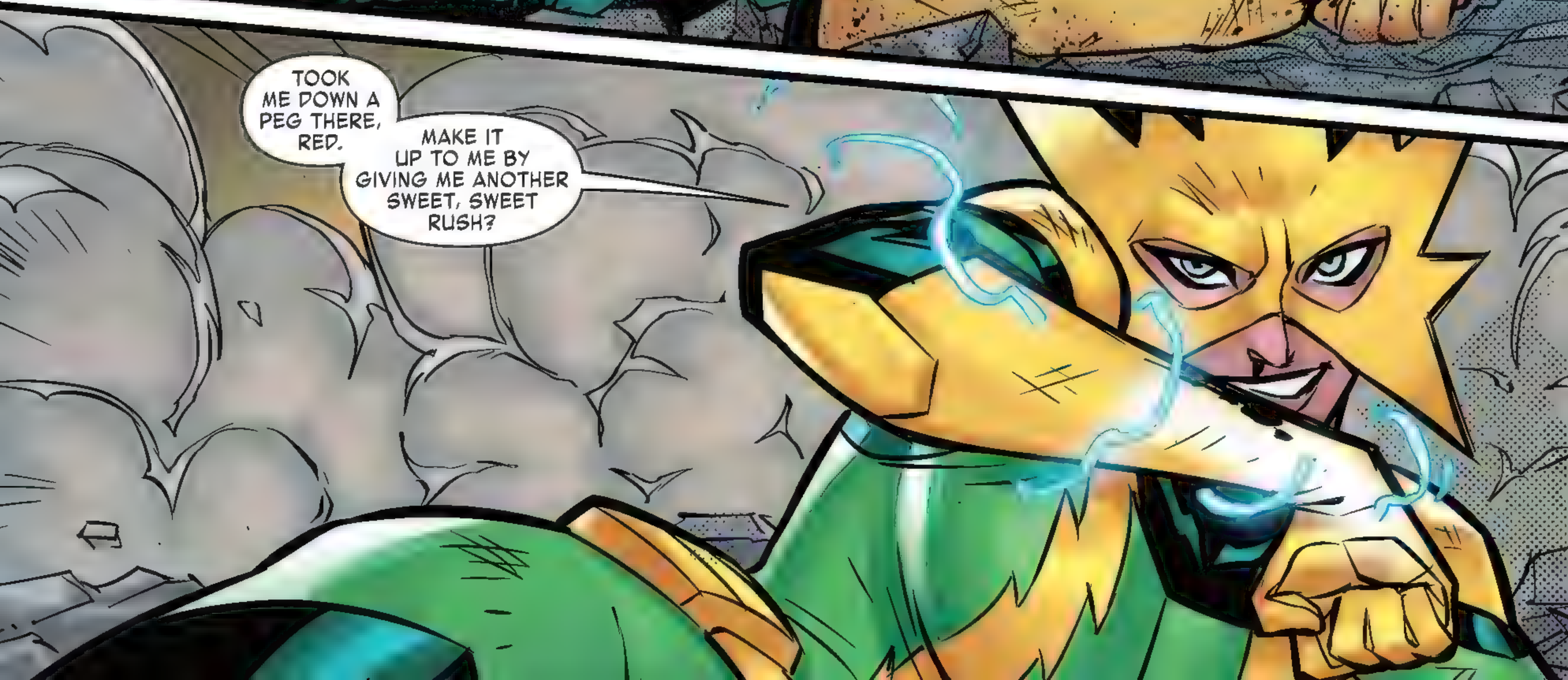


DON'T
MAKE ME TAKE A
HOSTAGE. I MEAN, I'D
SORT OF LOVE FOR YOU
TO MAKE ME TAKE
A HOSTAGE.

GAHHH!



ENDING
YOUR LITTLE
DESTRUCTION SPREE
IS INCENTIVE
ENOUGH.



TOOK
ME DOWN A
PEG THERE,
RED.

MAKE IT
UP TO ME BY
GIVING ME ANOTHER
SWEET, SWEET
RUSH?



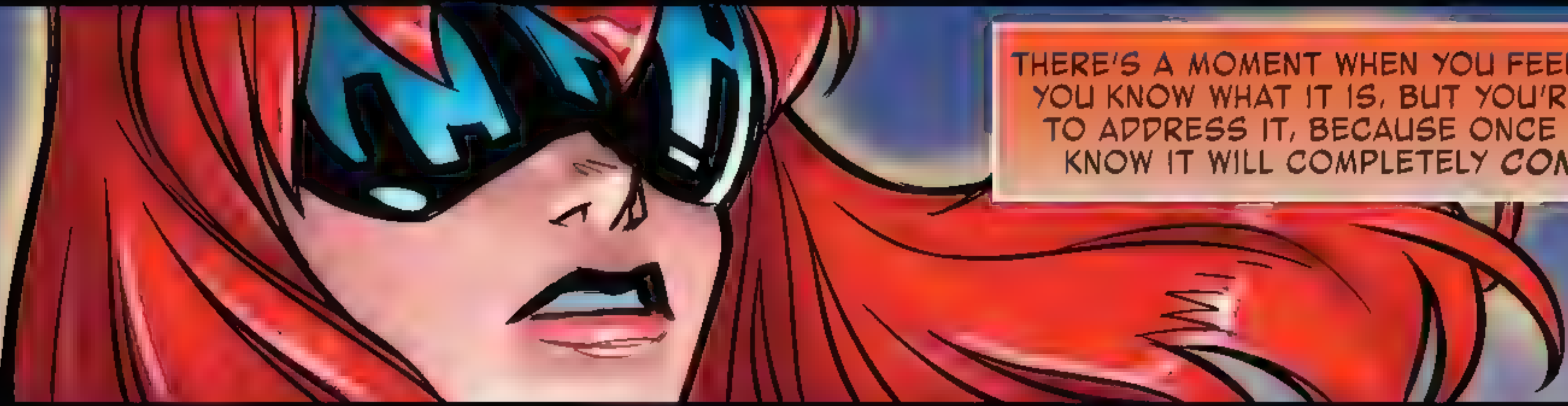
WAIT!
NO!

NO!
PLEASE!

YOU LAID
IT ON A BIT TOO
THICK THERE, RED.
AND TO THINK I
WAS ALMOST
FOOLED.

I'D STAY
AND PLAY, BUT
YOU'VE GOT NOTHING
AND I GOT PLACES TO
BE. HOPE MASQUE'S
CREW PUT UP MORE
OF A FIGHT.

DAMMIT.
SHE KNEW
IT WAS A
TRAP.



THERE'S A MOMENT WHEN YOU FEEL IT. THE *FEAR*. YOU KNOW WHAT IT IS, BUT YOU'RE TOO AFRAID TO ADDRESS IT. BECAUSE ONCE YOU *DO*, YOU KNOW IT WILL COMPLETELY *CONSUME* YOU.

PARALYZE YOU.



IF THERE'S ONE THING I FEAR, IT'S BEING *POWERLESS*. NOT HAVING THE ABILITY TO CONTROL OR CHANGE MY CIRCUMSTANCES.

BUT I KNOW IF I'M GOING TO PROTECT THIS CITY FROM ELECTRO, IT'S TIME TO FINALLY FACE MY FEAR. RECOGNIZE IT FOR WHAT IT IS.



AND LET THAT CLARITY SHOW ME A PATH THROUGH THE DARK.

MENAGERIE IS
DOWN. HEADING BACK
YOUR WAY, BEETLE. WAIT
UNTIL I TELL YOU ABOUT
THE DUMB-ORELLA I
JUST FACED.

HEY,
ELECTRO!

HEADS
UP!

YOUR
FLIGHT'S ABOUT TO
EXPERIENCE SOME
TURBULENCE.



YOU'RE GOING TO TAKE DOWN THE WHOLE ISLAND WITH THIS TORNADO! HURT HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE.



NOW YOU'RE LAYING IT ON A BIT TOO THICK, ELECTRO. I DON'T THINK YOU CARE ABOUT THEM. YOU'RE SCARED FOR YOURSELF.



AND YOU SHOULD BE.

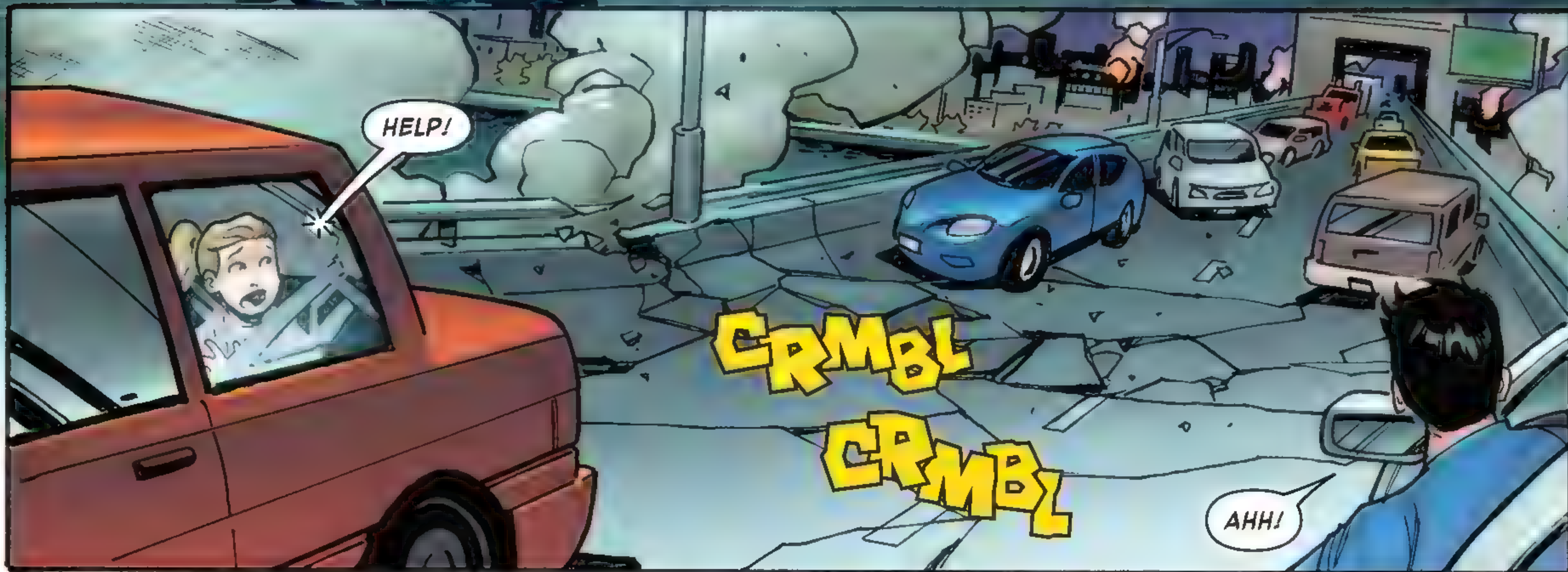
AHH!

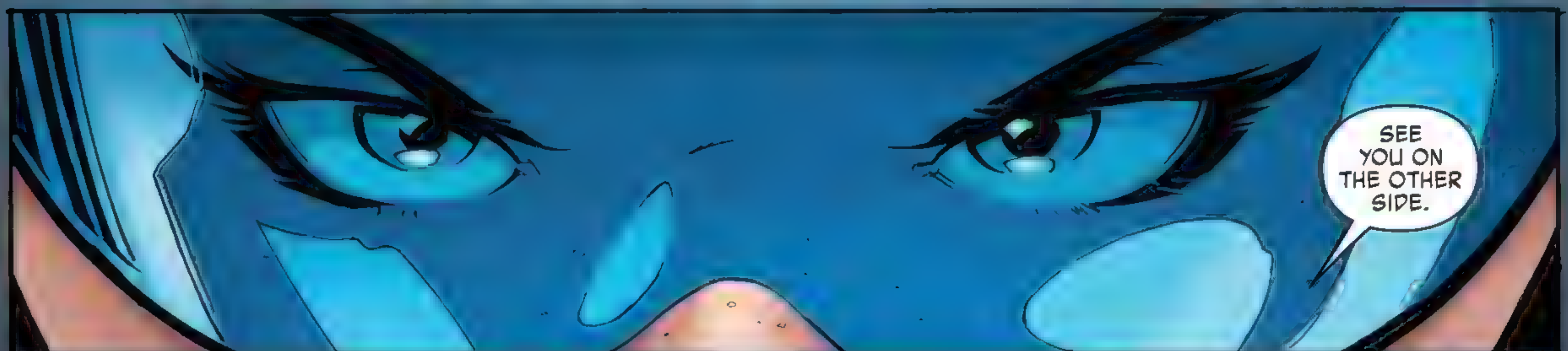
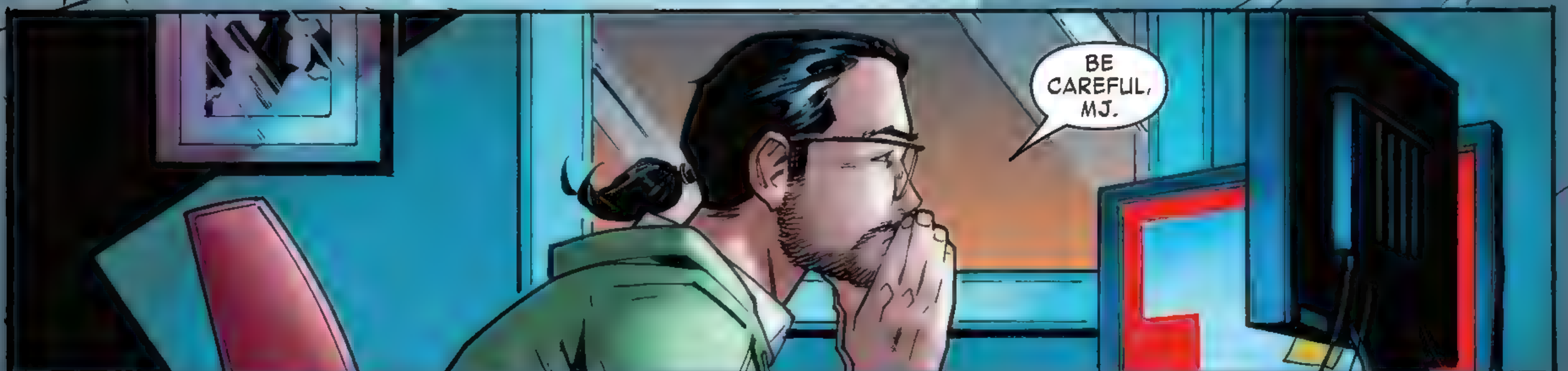
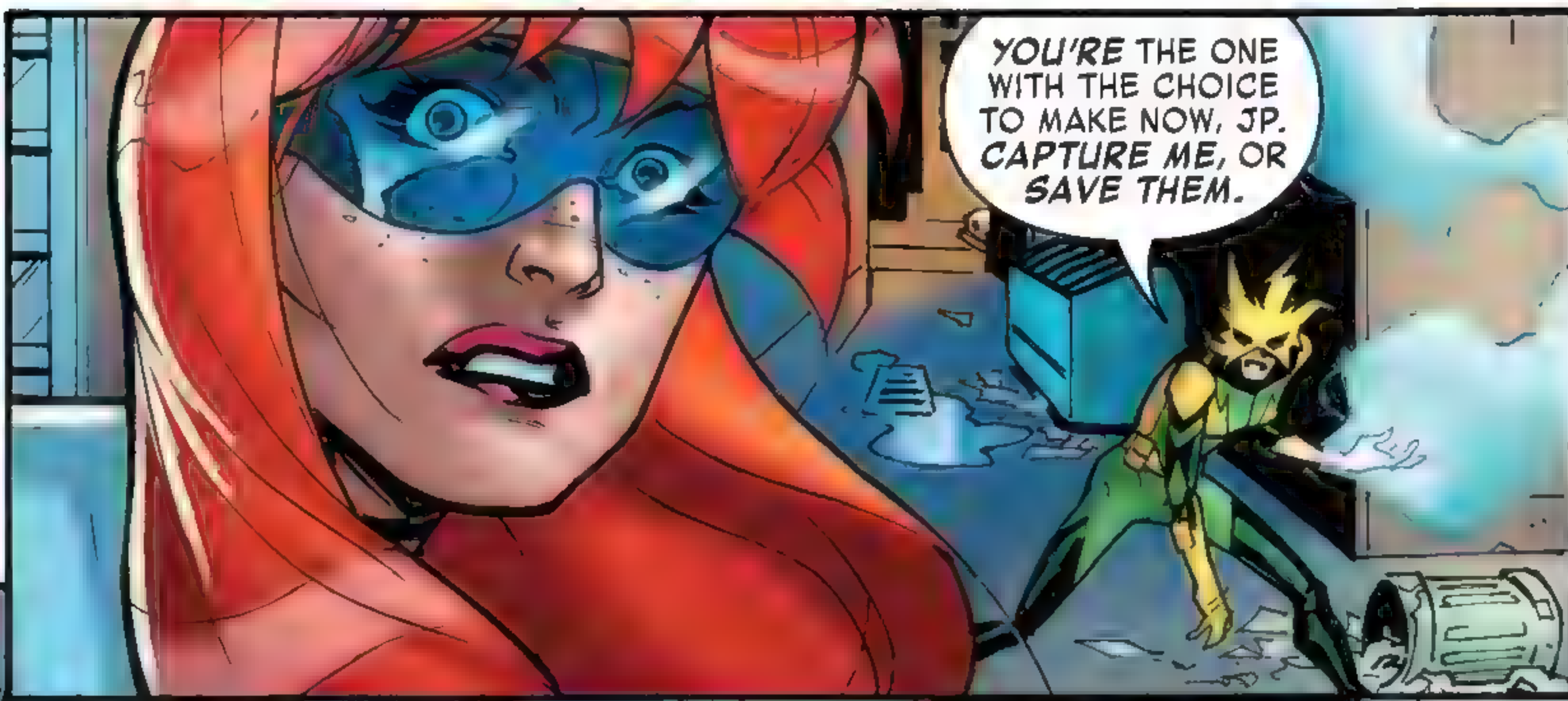
WHOA, ARE YOU GUYS SEEING THIS?



COME ON, M.J. YOU'VE GOT THIS.











I THINK WE'RE
GOING TO NEED TO
RESCHEDULE OUR
DINNER PLANS.



LOOKING GOOD!

THAT SHOULD HOLD FOR NOW.

THANKS FOR THE ASSIST.

I WISH I COULD STAY, BUT I'VE GOT TO GET MY TECH LIMITER CHECKED OUT. YOU KNOW WHERE TO FIND ME IF YOU NEED ANYTHING ELSE.

WE'RE GATHERING THE TROOPS FOR OUR BIG FINAL PUSH, M.J. IF YOU GET YOUR GAUNTLET FIXED UP, WE COULD USE ALL THE HELP WE CAN GET.

THAT RIGHT THERE IS A BREACH OF THE SECRET IDENTITY ACT. YOU COULD SUE HIM.

I'VE GOT YOUR CARD.

SEE YOU AROUND, SPIDER-MAN.



LIKE I SAID BEFORE,
OUR CHOICES LEAD
US EXACTLY WHERE
WE'RE MEANT TO BE.

I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO
BE PART OF SOMETHING
BIGGER THAN MYSELF.
HELP THOSE AROUND ME.

JACKPOT'S GIVEN ME THE
ABILITY TO SAVE OTHERS,
BUT THE TRUTH IS, SHE'S
ALSO SAVED ME. NOT BY
SHOWING ME WHO I CAN
BE, BUT BY SHOWING ME
WHO I ALREADY WAS.

HELP!

SOMEONE WHO HAS
NEVER IN HER LIFE
BEEN POWERLESS.

IT'S BEEN A LONG
ROAD GETTING
HERE, AND I'M JUST
GETTING STARTED.





THERE'S A CALM
BREEZE IN NEW YORK
CITY TONIGHT.

IT'S QUIET.
PEACEFUL.

AND THAT'S
WHAT SETS ME
ON EDGE.

THE SOUND OF SCREAMS ECHOING
THROUGH THE NIGHT MEANS PEOPLE
ARE REACHING OUT FOR HELP. BUT
SILENCE MEANS THEY DON'T EVEN
KNOW THEY'RE IN DANGER YET.

THE TRICK
IS TO GET
AHEAD OF IT.

USE THE
SILENCE TO YOUR
ADVANTAGE.

USE THE
NOISE TO YOUR
ADVANTAGE

THESE BRAWLING THUGS ARE
JUST WHAT I NEED TONIGHT.
THE FOCUS IS ON THEM. WHICH
MEANS I CAN SLIP ON BY.

IT'S ONE OF THE PERKS
OF VISITING CHANCE'S
FLYING CASINO.

ILLEGAL CASH PUMPS
THROUGH THE VEINS
OF THIS LOCALE.



SO CHANCE KEEPS IT HIDDEN AWAY, FLYING THE CASINO TWO THOUSAND FEET ABOVE MANHATTAN AND USING INVISIBILITY TECH FOR GOOD MEASURE.

THAT EXTRA PROTECTION ATTRACTS A BUFFET OF NEW YORK CITY'S MOST WANTED, AND THEY SURE DO COME IN ALL SPICES HERE--MILD, MEDIUM, AND HOT.

NOT THAT KIND OF HOT.

WHICH MEANS FEWER DISTRACTIONS FOR TONIGHT'S MISSION.

I'M GOING TO STAY QUIET AND BLEND IN WITH THESE LOW-GRADE CLOWNS.

THEY DO THE DIRTY WORK DOWN BELOW, AND THEN GAMBLE IT ALL AWAY UP HERE.

IT'S REWARD WITHOUT RISK FOR US.

SO YOU'VE SAID.

BOOP
BOOP

Turn right to the control room. Once there, trigger a power outage.

BECAUSE WHEN THEY TEXT WHAT THEY WANT, I'VE GOT TO DO EXACTLY AS THEY DEMAND.



I'VE LIVED
IN THIS CITY LONG
ENOUGH TO UNDERSTAND
ITS RHYTHM...I KNOW
WHEN SOMETHING'S
OFF, PAUL.

IT'S
JUST THE
TWINKLY LIGHTS
AND CHEERY
MUSIC...

...IT'S
MAKING THE
CITY DOCILE.
CONTENT.

OR MAYBE
THIS SILENCE IS
THE CALM BEFORE
THE...



...STORM!



PAUL, ARE
YOU SEEING THIS?
A MASSIVE SHIP JUST
MATERIALIZED OUT
OF THIN AIR.

ITS INVISIBILITY
SHIELD MUST HAVE
GLITCHED OUT.



I'M GOING TO
CHECK THINGS OUT.
MAKE SURE EVERYONE
INSIDE THE SHIP'S
OKAY.

WHAT
POWER HAVE
YOU GOT FOR
ME THIS
TIME?

DING

DING

DING

ARMOR?
NOT BAD, BUT
IT WON'T GET ME
THROUGH THE
HULL.

SPINNING
AGAIN.

DING

DING

DING

PORTALS?
THAT'LL DO.

THWOOM



HELP!
DOES ANYONE HAVE A FLASHLIGHT?

THERE'S BEEN SOME KIND OF POWER OUTAGE.

WHICH IS WHY THE SHIP'S INVISIBILITY TECH GLITCHED OUT.

IT'S ALL BEEN DISCONNECTED. LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE GOT A CRIMINAL ON THE LOOSE.

EVERYONE HERE IS A CRIMINAL ON THE LOOSE!

SOMEONE GET THE POWER BACK UP.

THE ENGINEER'S OUT SICK TODAY.

IF THE POWER'S DOWN, SO ARE THE SAFE'S SECURITY MEASURES. OUR PRIORITY NEEDS TO BE MOVING ALL THAT CASH FROM THE VAULT TO THE ESCAPE SHIP.

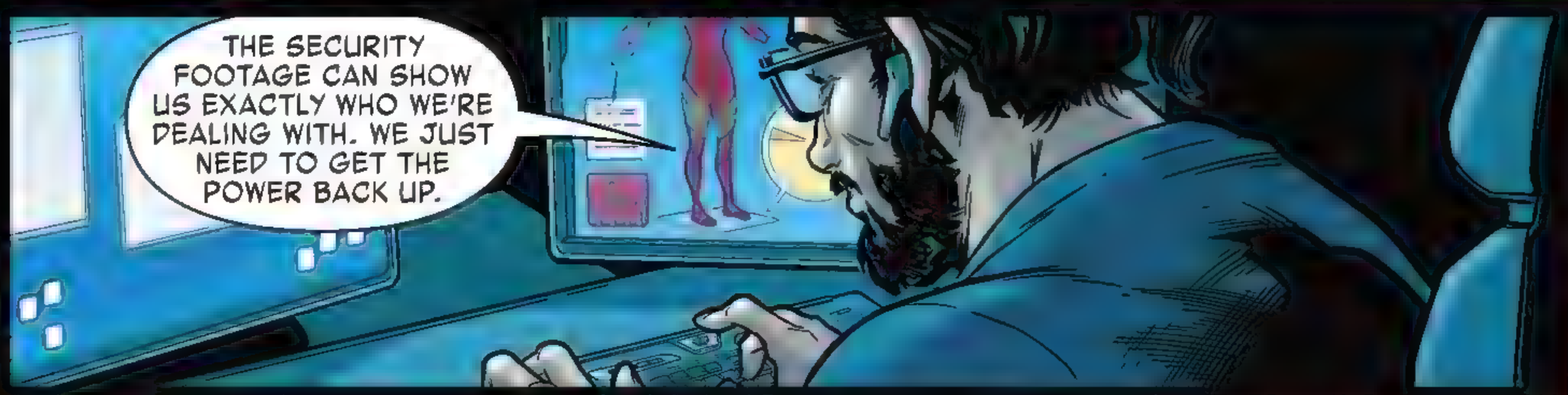


GET
A MOVE
ON!



WHOEVER
DID THIS IS GOING
AFTER THE MONEY
IN THAT SAFE.

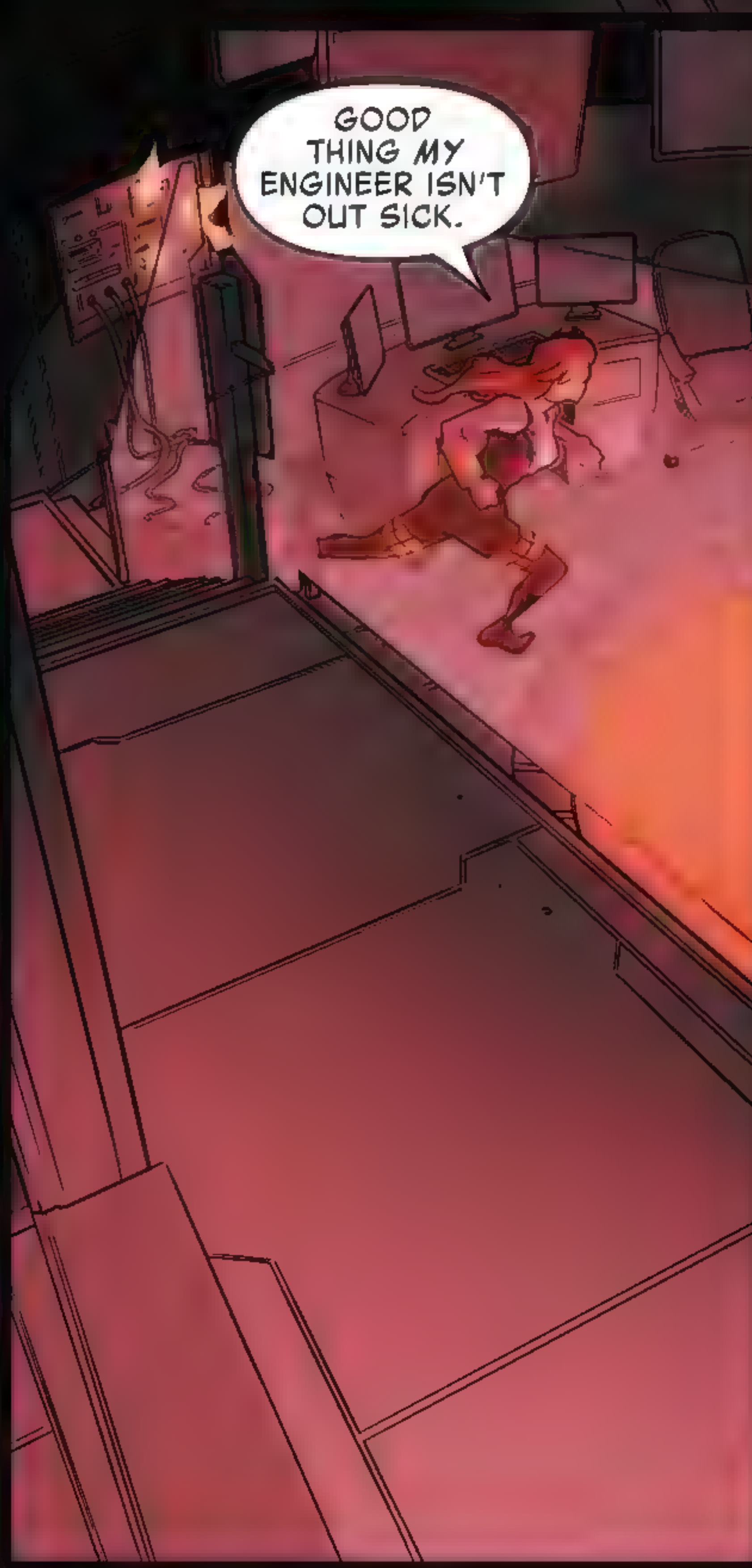
AND THEY'RE
RELYING ON THE
DARK TO STAY
INCOGNITO.



THE SECURITY
FOOTAGE CAN SHOW
US EXACTLY WHO WE'RE
DEALING WITH. WE JUST
NEED TO GET THE
POWER BACK UP.



WHOOAAA.



GOOD
THING MY
ENGINEER ISN'T
OUT SICK.



TIME
TO LIGHT
THIS SHIP
UP.

WALK
ME THROUGH
IT, PAUL.

HURRY
IT UP. THAT'S MY
LIVELIHOOD IN YOUR
HANDS. AND RIGHT
NOW, IT'S YOURS
TOO.

HALT.

WEAPONS
UP.

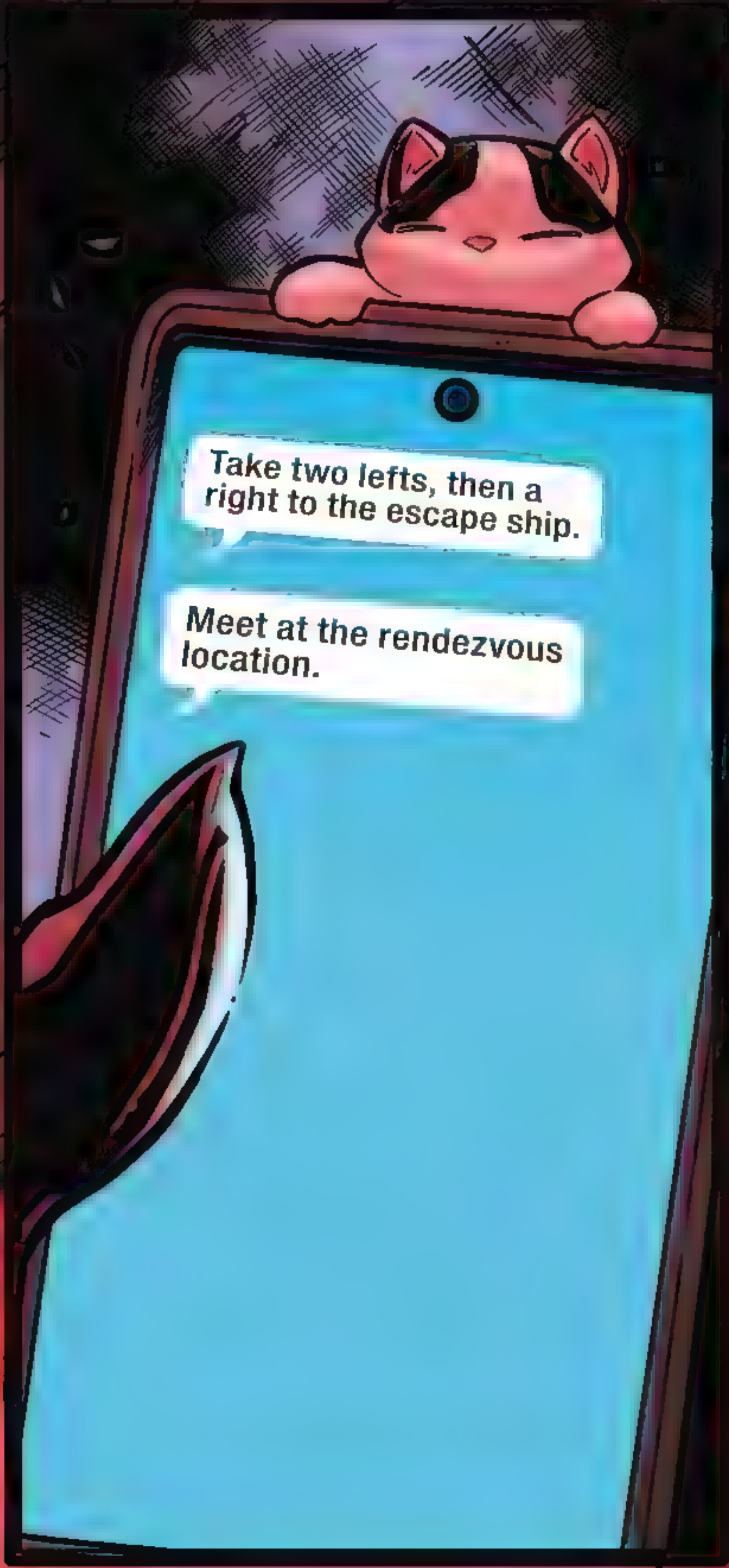
CAREFUL WHERE
YOU POINT THOSE
THINGS, BOYS.

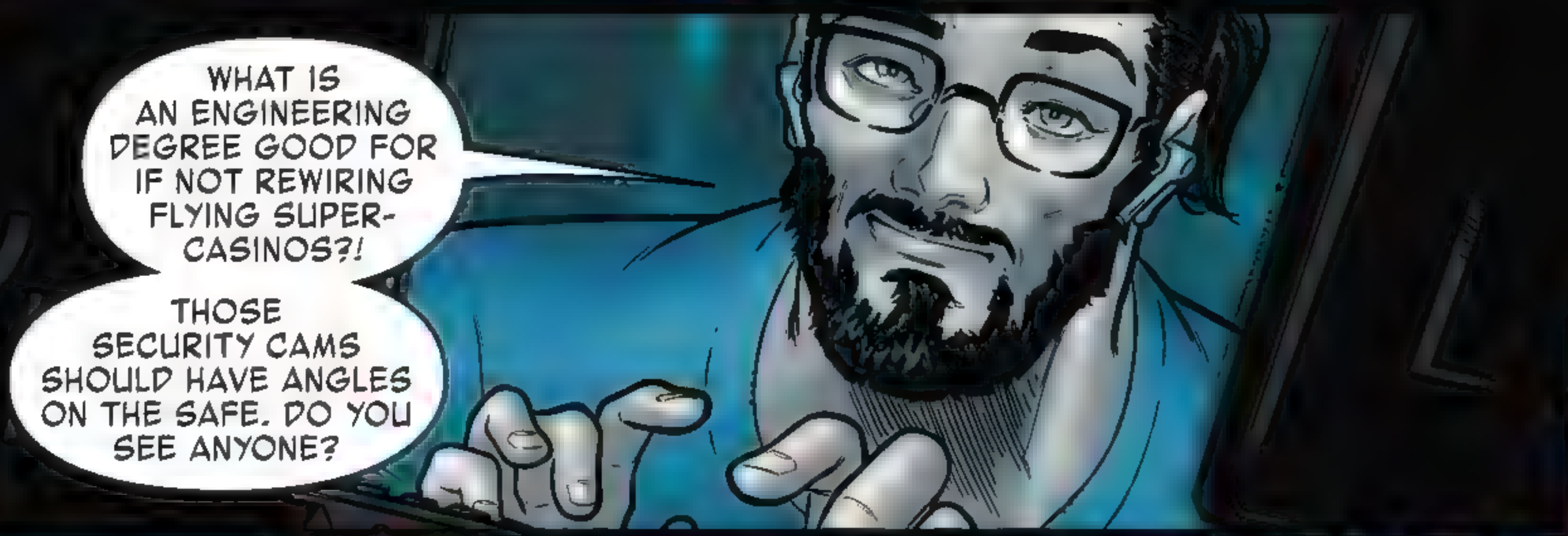
CAT.
YOU CUT MY
POWER? I TAKE
OFFENSE TO
THAT.

BUT EVEN MORE
OFFENSE TO YOU
UNDERESTIMATING
MY STRENGTH.

I LIKE
MY ODDS.







THERE ARE CERTAIN
PEOPLE IN THIS
WORLD WHO COUNT
DOWN FROM THREE

THEY HAVE TOO
MUCH TIME ON
THEIR HANDS.

I'VE ALWAYS BEEN
MORE OF A "TWO,
ONE" GIRL MYSELF.

TWO, ONE,
GO--

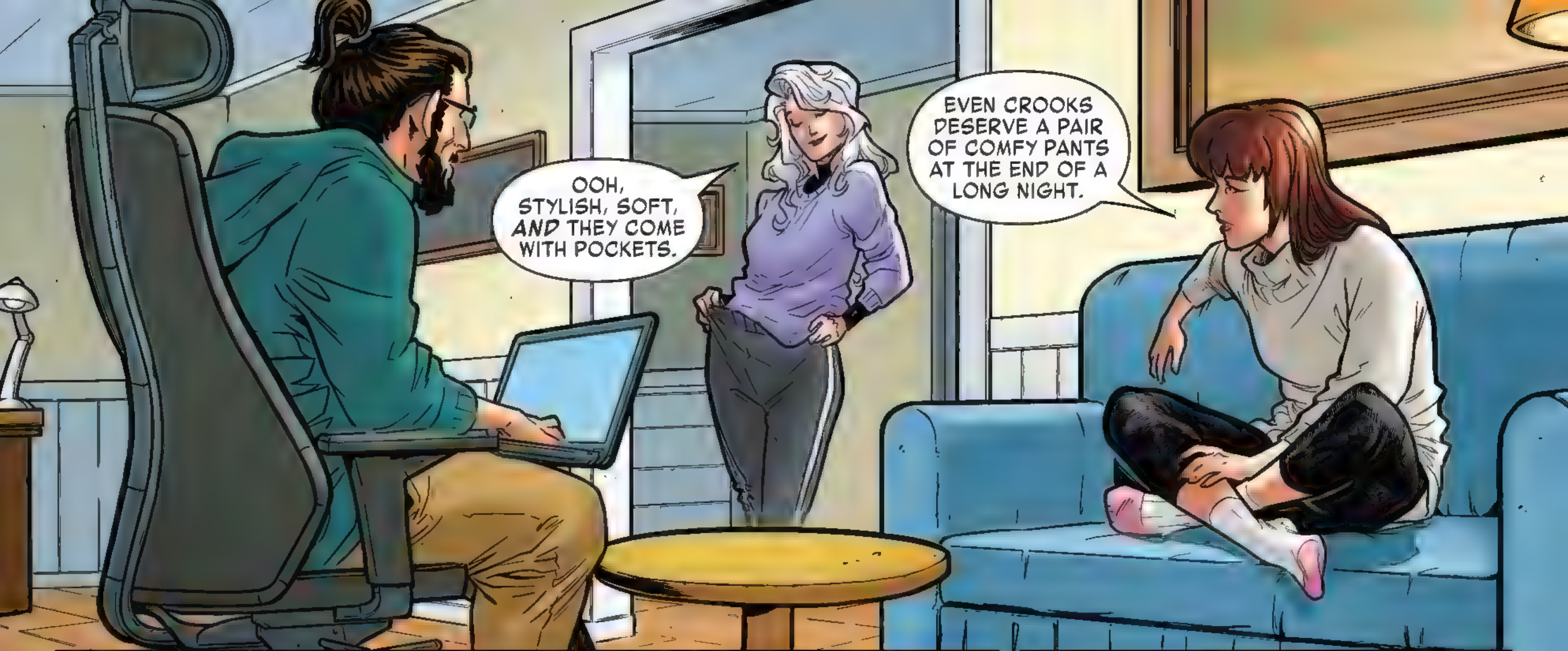
AUTO-
PILOT ON.

SHE'S A
NATURAL,
FOLKS!

BWOMP

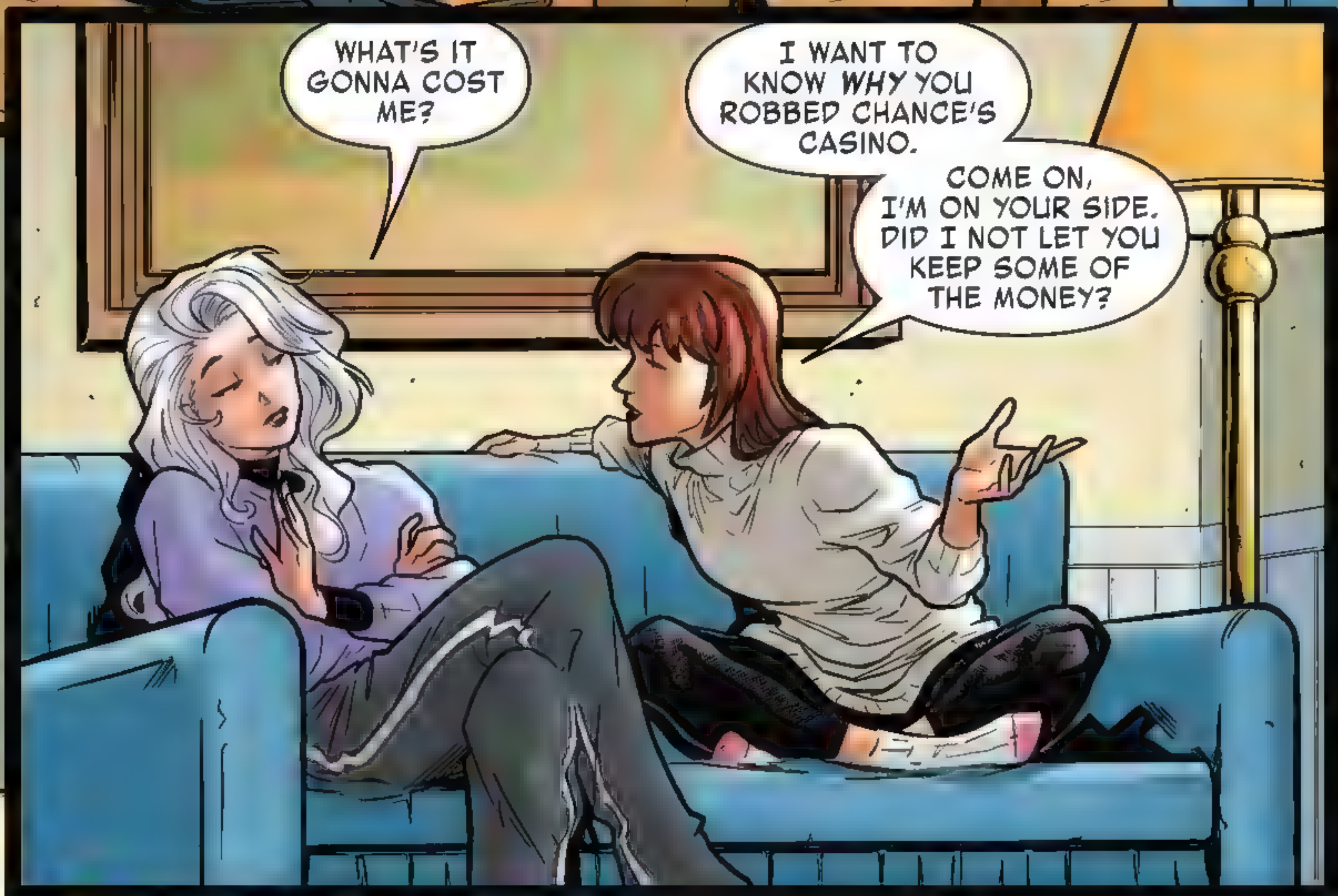
OOOMPH.

MIND IF
I CATCH
A LIFT?



OOH, STYLISH, SOFT, AND THEY COME WITH POCKETS.

EVEN CROOKS DESERVE A PAIR OF COMFY PANTS AT THE END OF A LONG NIGHT.



WHAT'S IT GONNA COST ME?

I WANT TO KNOW WHY YOU ROBBED CHANCE'S CASINO.

COME ON, I'M ON YOUR SIDE. DID I NOT LET YOU KEEP SOME OF THE MONEY?



YOU GAVE MOST OF IT TO CHARITY.

FELICIA...



IF YOU WANT THE FULL SONG AND DANCE, YOU'D HAVE TO ASK THE PERSON ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THESE MESSAGES.



SOMEONE'S BEEN BLACK-MAILING YOU?



IT'S THIS APP CALLED OBSCURA.

IT JUST SHOWED UP ON MY PHONE ONE DAY, AND I STARTED GETTING REQUESTS TO ROB BANKS, STEAL CONFIDENTIAL FILES...

THEY SAID IF I DIDN'T FOLLOW THROUGH ON THEIR ORDERS, THEY'D TAKE ME OUT.

Await further instruction.



IF THEY SEND ANYONE AFTER YOU, THEY'LL BE DOWN A HELL OF A LOT OF ASSASSINS.



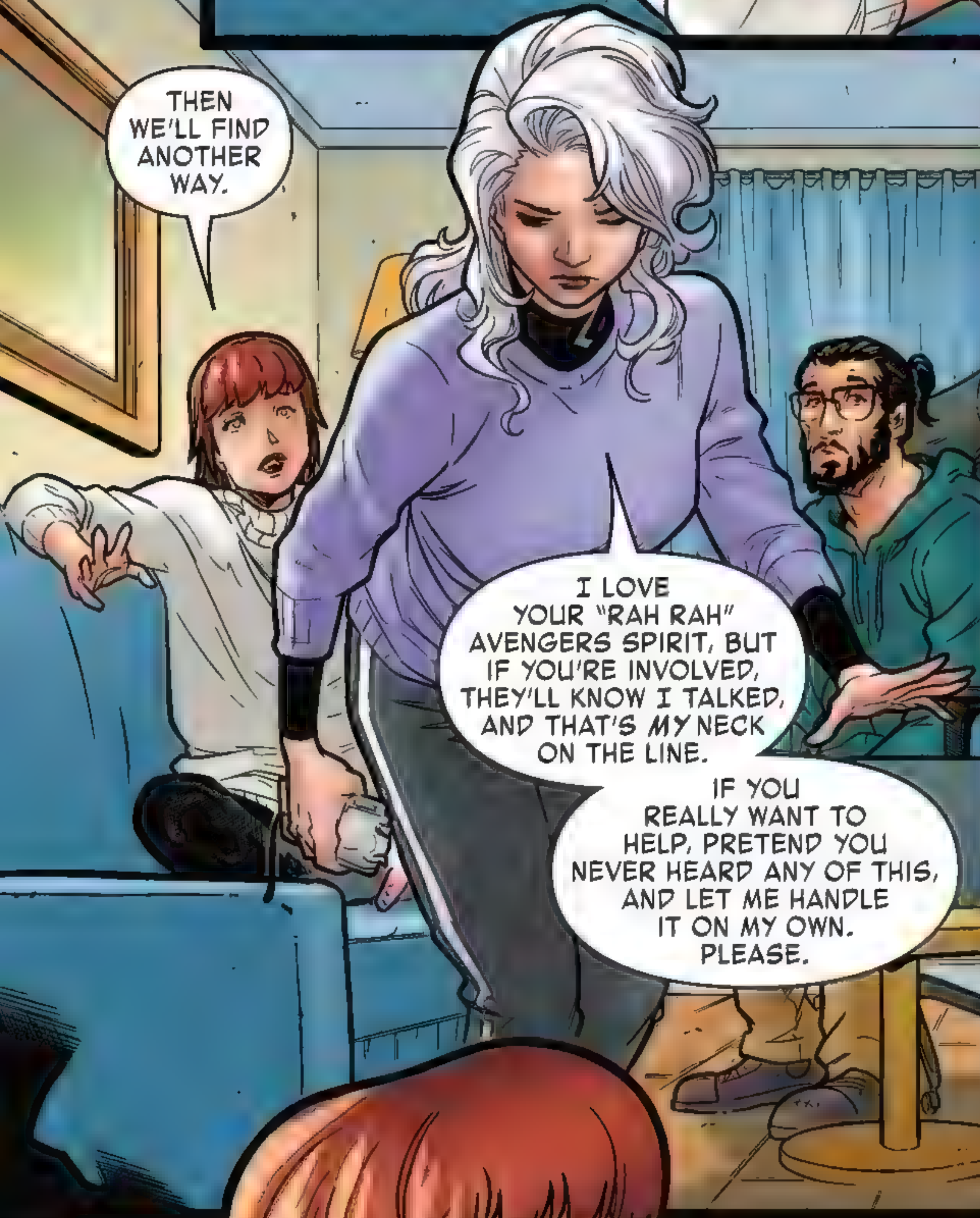
IT'S NOT THAT SIMPLE, BABE. THE APP HAS ALMOST THE WHOLE CITY UNDER THEIR CONTROL. THEY'RE ALL BEING THREATENED, WHICH MEANS ANYONE OR EVERYONE AROUND US COULD BE THE ENEMY.



PAUL, CAN YOU TRACK THESE OBSCURA PEOPLE DOWN?

I'LL JUST NEED ACCESS TO FELICIA'S PHONE.

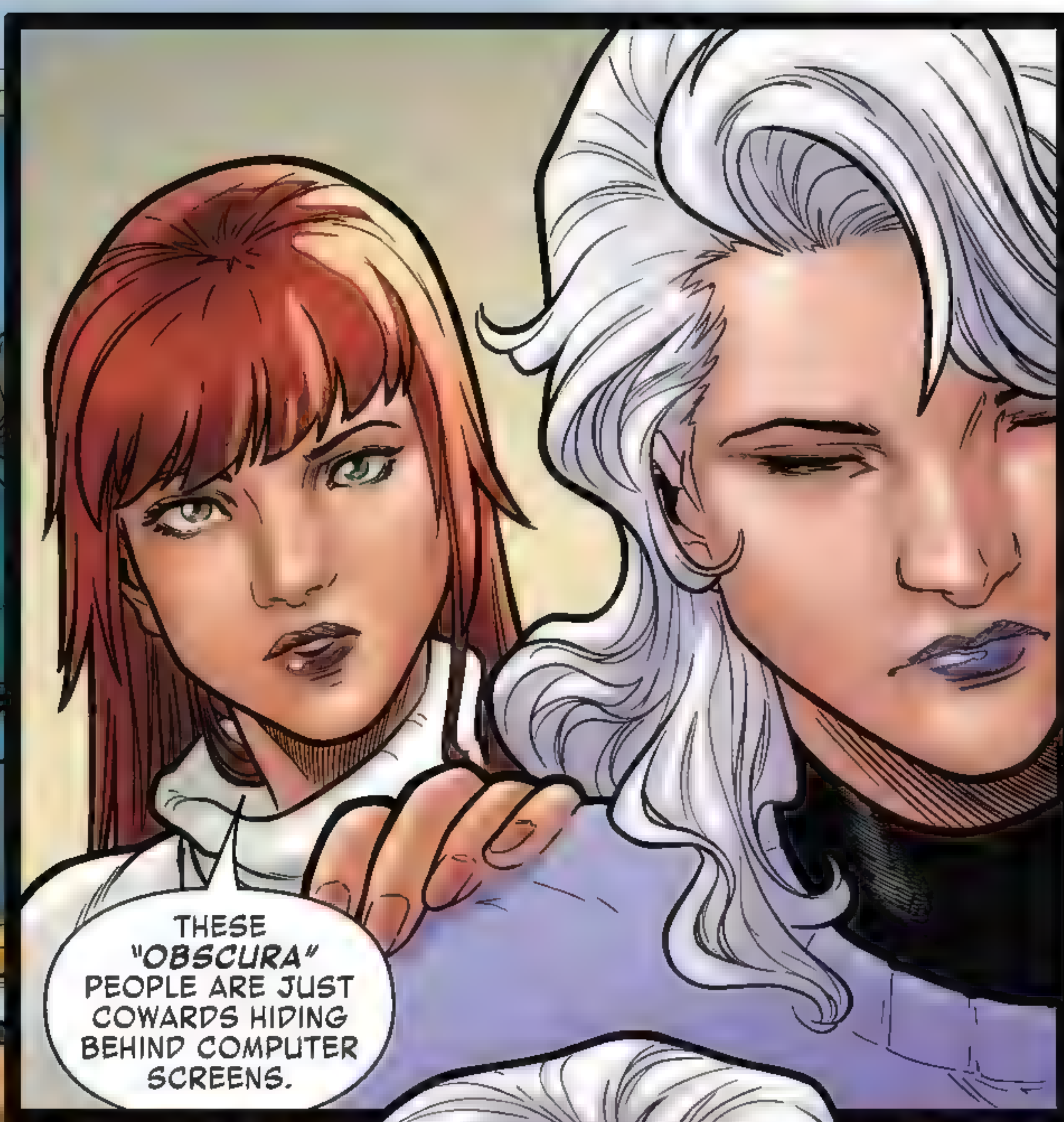
NO. IF YOU HACK THEM, THEY'LL HACK YOU RIGHT BACK AND SPILL YOUR BLOOD ALL OVER THIS NICE RUG.



THEN WE'LL FIND ANOTHER WAY.

I LOVE YOUR "RAH RAH" AVENGERS SPIRIT, BUT IF YOU'RE INVOLVED, THEY'LL KNOW I TALKED, AND THAT'S MY NECK ON THE LINE.

IF YOU REALLY WANT TO HELP, PRETEND YOU NEVER HEARD ANY OF THIS, AND LET ME HANDLE IT ON MY OWN. PLEASE.

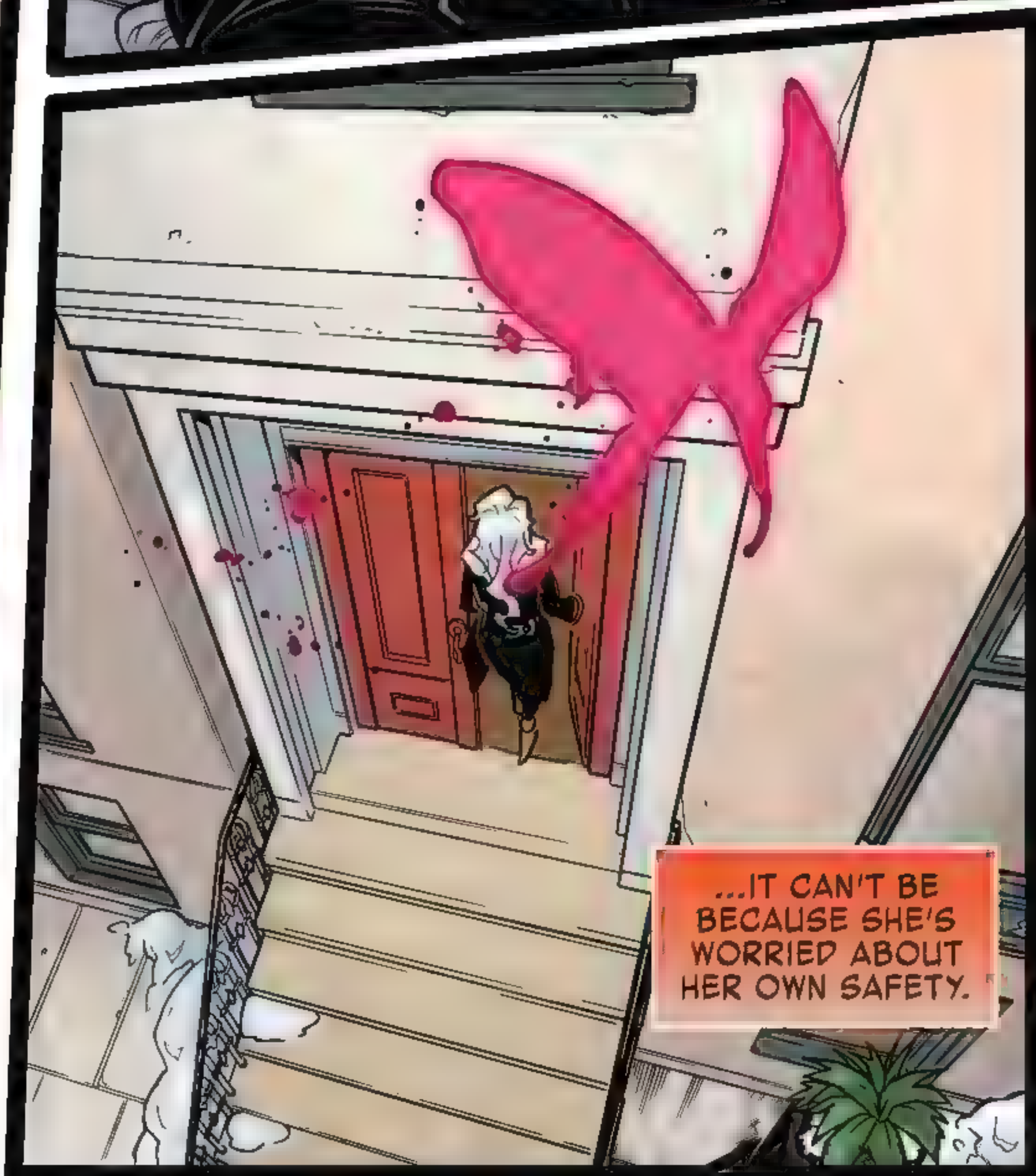


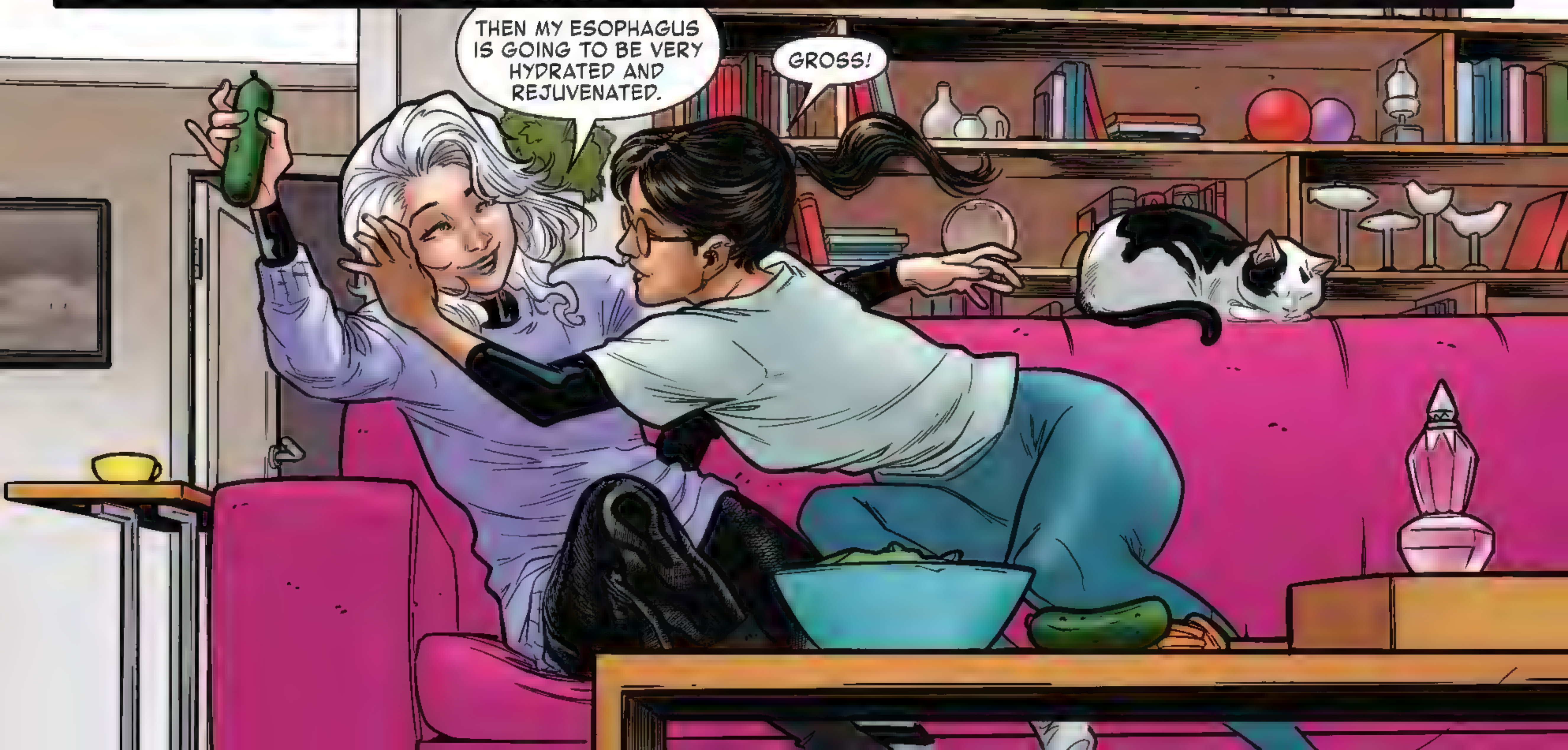
THESE "OBSCURA" PEOPLE ARE JUST COWARDS HIDING BEHIND COMPUTER SCREENS.

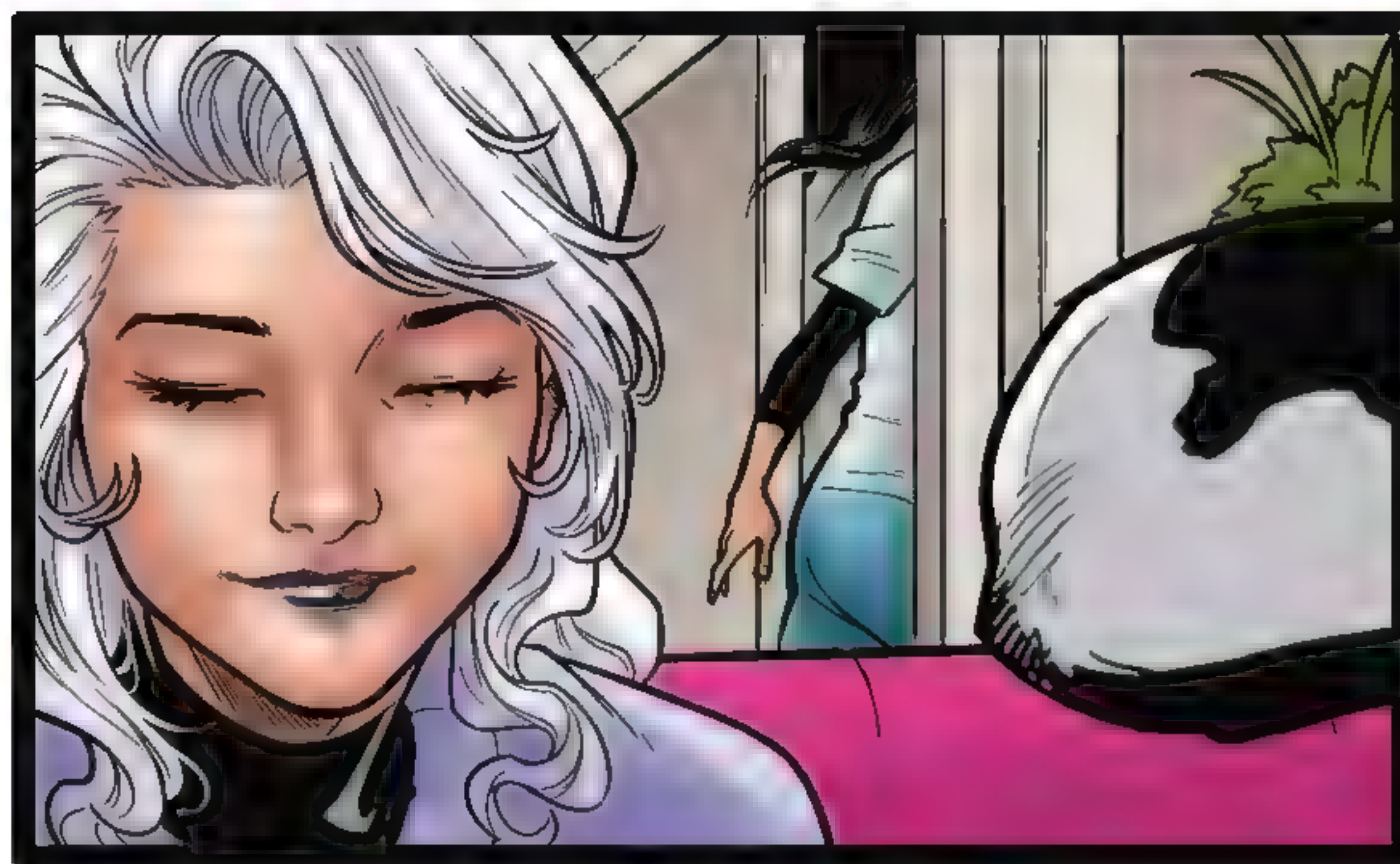


I'M NOT SCARED OF THEM.

YOU SHOULD BE.









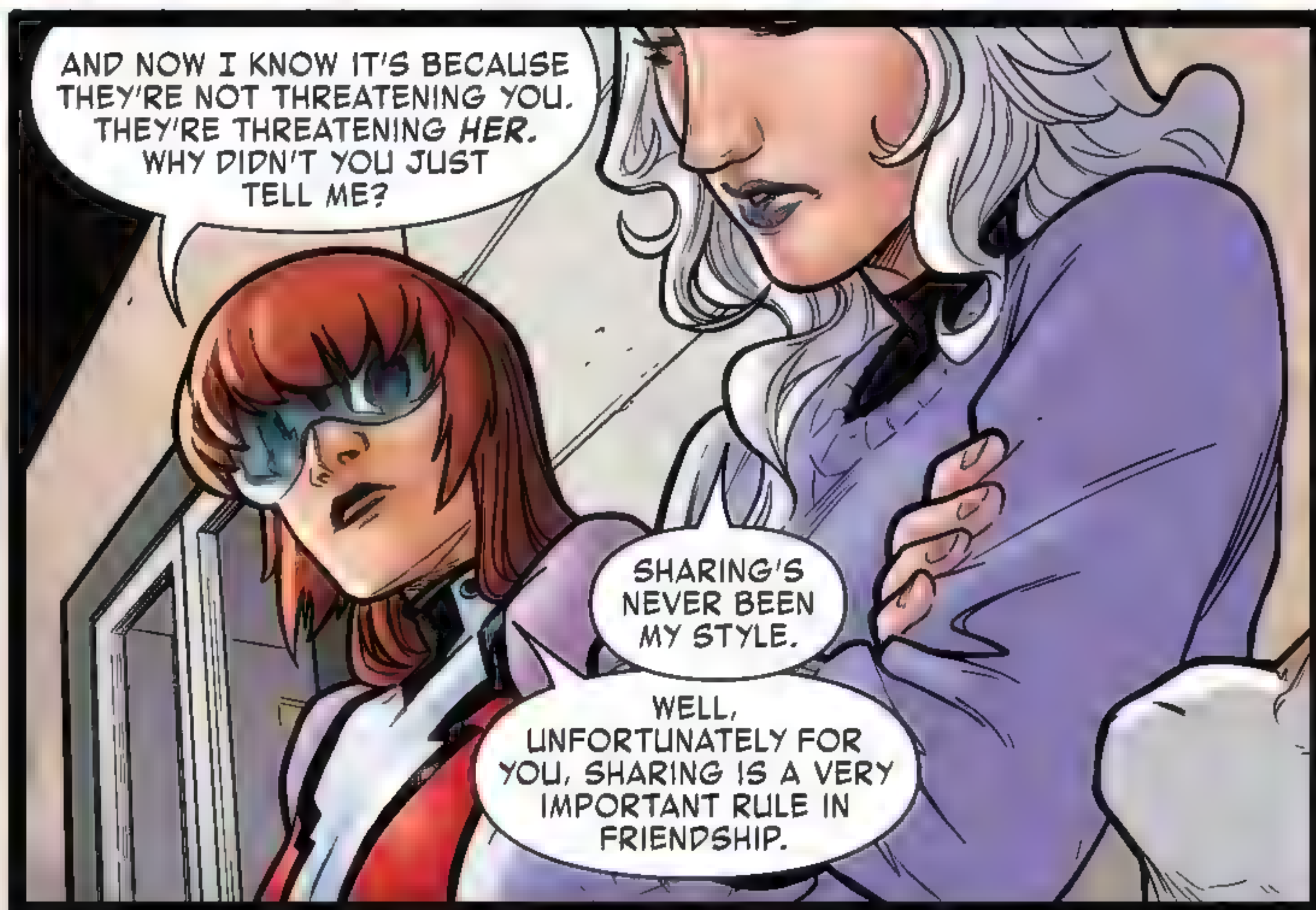
SO
YOU'RE THE
CREEP WHO WAS
FOLLOWING
ME.



I THOUGHT
FRIENDSHIP CAME
WITH SOME SORT OF
LOYALTY PACT.

BUT FRIENDS
ARE NEW TO ME,
SO WHY DON'T YOU
FILL ME IN ON THE
RULES?

I THOUGHT IF
I COULD FIGURE
OUT WHY OBSCURA
SCARED YOU SO MUCH,
I COULD FIND A
WAY TO HELP.



AND NOW I KNOW IT'S BECAUSE
THEY'RE NOT THREATENING YOU.
THEY'RE THREATENING HER.
WHY DIDN'T YOU JUST
TELL ME?

SHARING'S
NEVER BEEN
MY STYLE.

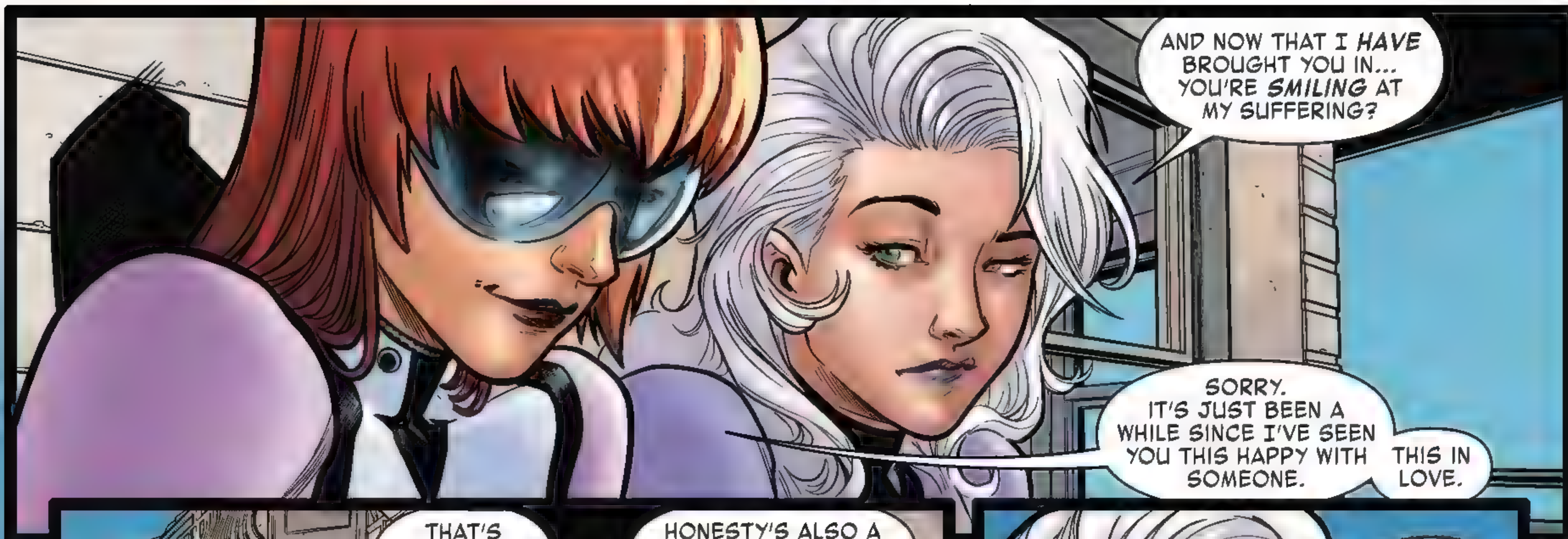
WELL,
UNFORTUNATELY FOR
YOU, SHARING IS A VERY
IMPORTANT RULE IN
FRIENDSHIP.



HER NAME'S AMELIA.
I MET HER FIVE MONTHS
AGO. SHE'S GREAT. AND IT
WAS ALL GOING FINE UNTIL
OBSCURA STARTED
MESSAGING ME.

THEY SAID
THEY'D GO AFTER
HER IF I DIDN'T DO
EXACTLY AS THEY SAID. SO,
YEAH, I HAVEN'T WANTED
TO RUFFLE ANY OF
THEIR SLIMY, SCALY
FEATHERS.

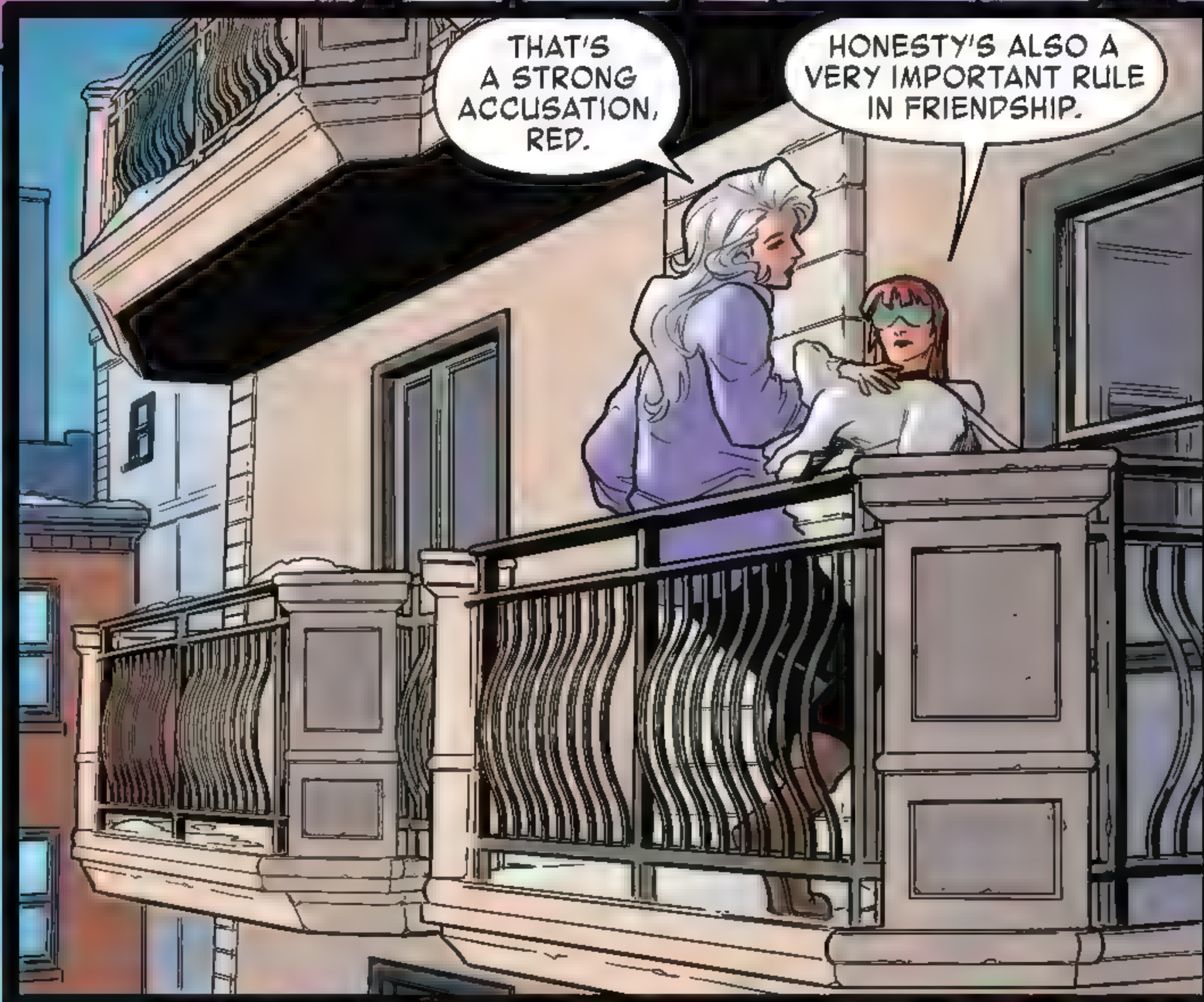
OR BRING
ANYONE ELSE
INTO IT.



AND NOW THAT I HAVE BROUGHT YOU IN... YOU'RE *SMILING* AT MY SUFFERING?

SORRY. IT'S JUST BEEN A WHILE SINCE I'VE SEEN YOU THIS HAPPY WITH SOMEONE.

THIS IN LOVE.



THAT'S A STRONG ACCUSATION, RED.

HONESTY'S ALSO A VERY IMPORTANT RULE IN FRIENDSHIP.



YOU HEROES AND YOUR RULES.

DOESN'T IT EVER GET EXHAUSTING?



DAMN. THESE STEAKS ARE GOING TO TAKE, LIKE, SIX HOURS TO DEFROST.

FELICIA, YOU THERE?



JUST GIVE ME SOME TIME TO TIPTOE AROUND OBSCURA. GET THE ADVANTAGE. ONCE I DO, I PROMISE I'LL GIVE YOU A CALL.

HAVING PEOPLE YOU CARE ABOUT IS ONE OF THE GREATEST GIFTS IN THIS WORLD.

EVERYTHING OKAY?

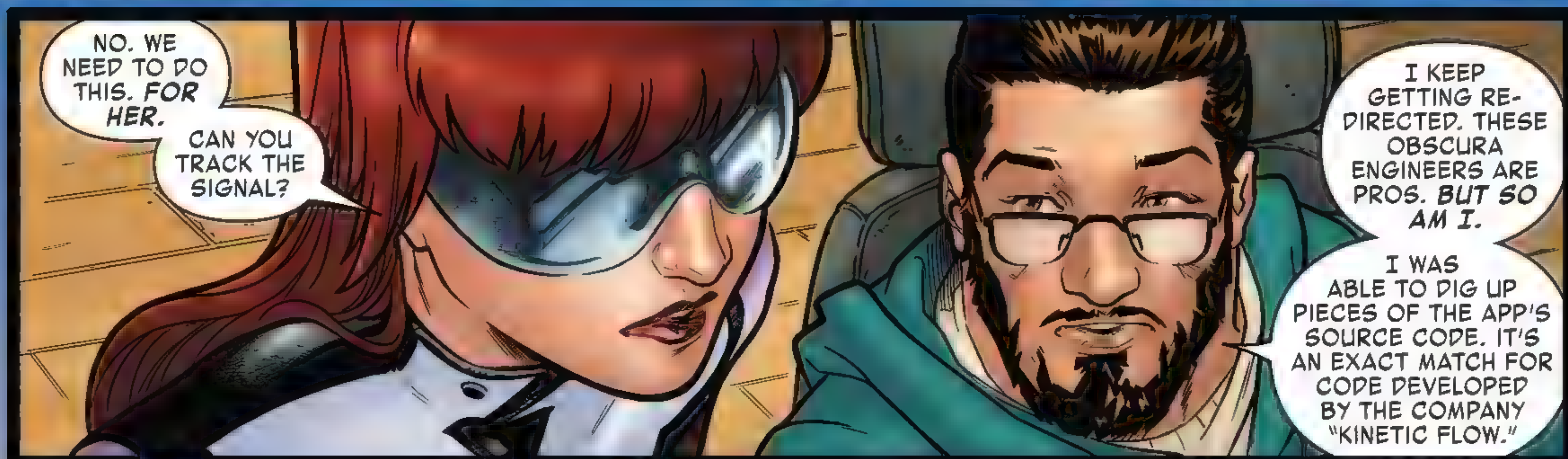
I WAS JUST SHOOING AWAY THAT CHATTY PIGEON.

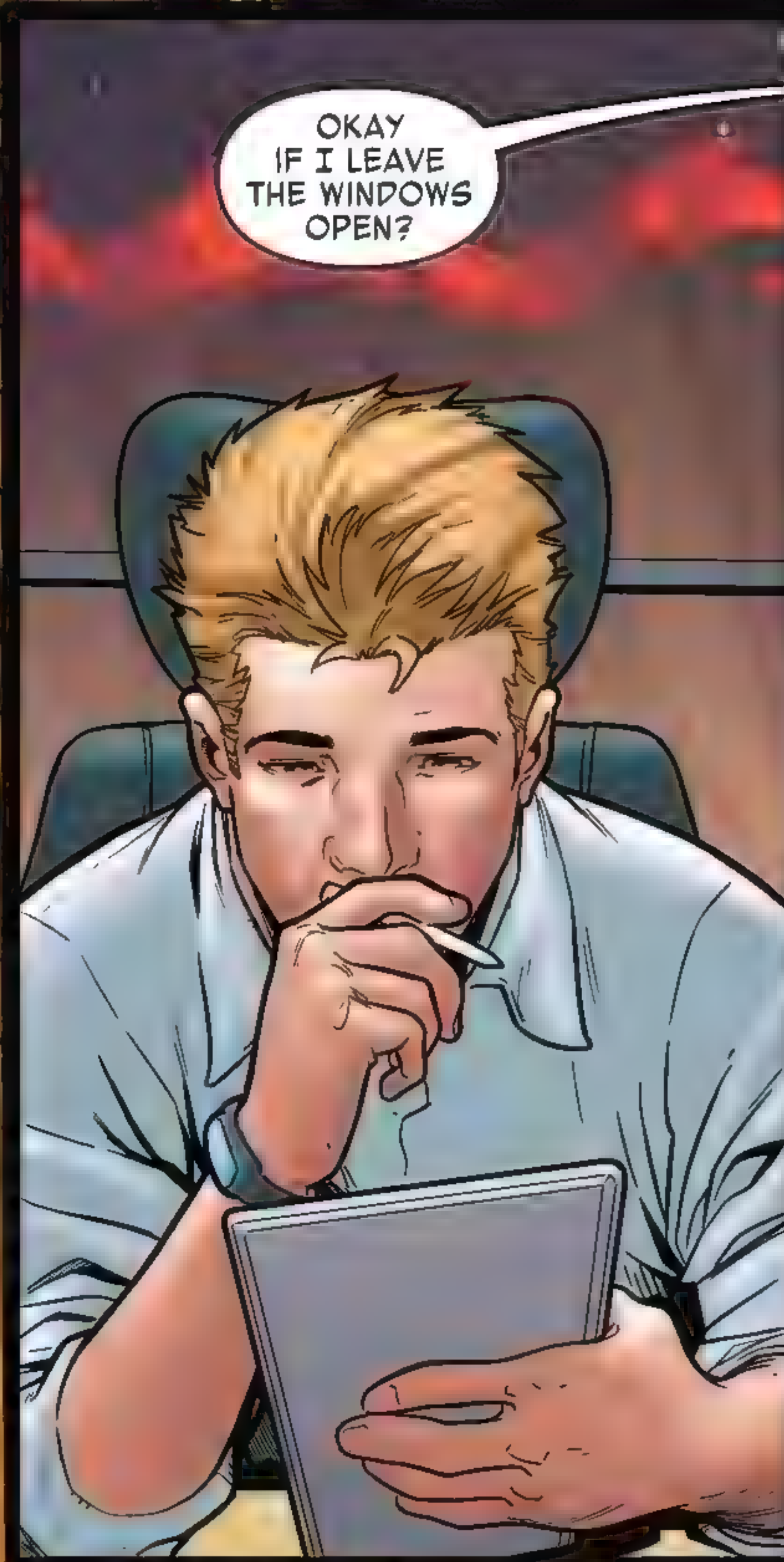
BUT SOMETIMES, IT CAN ALSO FEEL LIKE ONE OF ITS GREATEST TRAGEDIES.

ESPECIALLY WHEN YOU'RE IN THIS LINE OF WORK. I'VE SEEN PETER'S FEAR FOR ME TEAR HIM APART.

AND I DON'T EVER WANT FELICIA TO BE IN THAT POSITION.

MJ. I THINK I'VE GOT SOMETHING.







WYATT HARRIS, FOUNDER OF KINETIC FLOW.

WHO ARE YOU?

HAVING YOUR EMPLOYEES PULL ALL-NIGHTERS IS BAD FOR PRODUCTIVITY AND OVERALL MORALE. THAT ALONE *SHOULD* BE A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.

BUT BUILDING A BLACKMAIL APP THAT FORCES USERS TO DO YOUR EVIL BIDDING...WELL, THAT *DEFINITELY IS*.



HI, SECURITY--

SINCE YOU'RE SUCH A FAN OF BLACKMAIL-- EITHER SHUT DOWN YOUR APP...



...OR I'LL USE MY POWERS TO RELEASE EVERY SLIMY TEXT YOU'VE EVER SENT WITH "OBSCURA."

I HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH THAT APP. I *SWEAR*.





BLAM

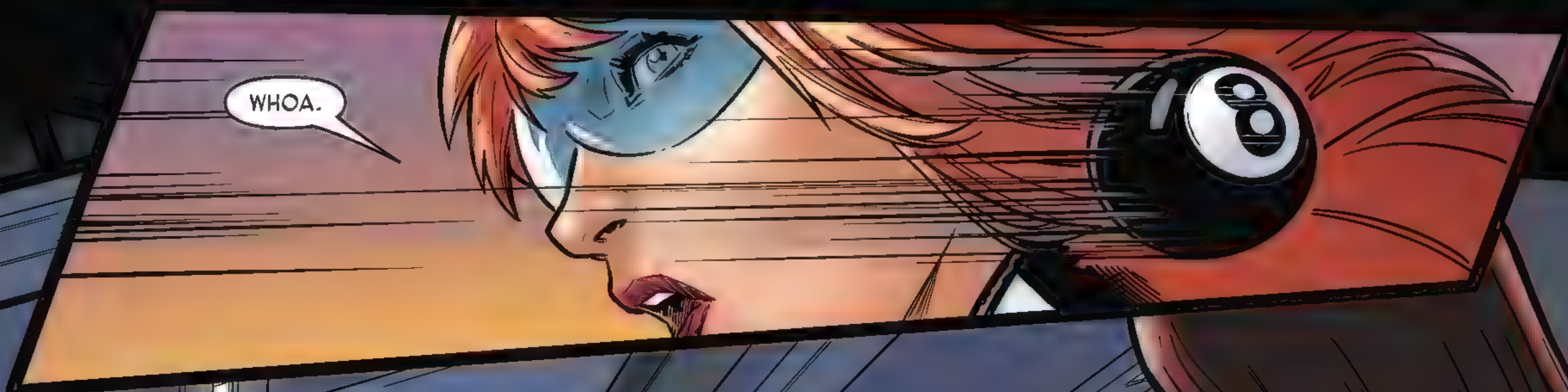
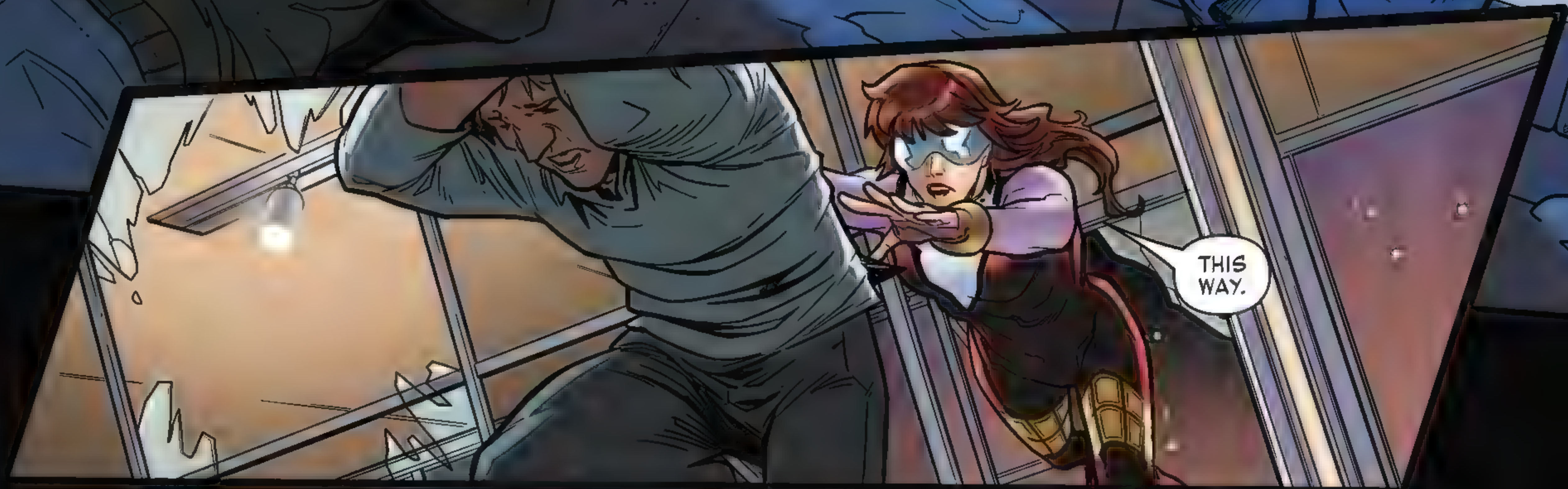
BLAM

BLAM

BLAM

BLAM

GET DOWN.







AN APOLOGY FOR
COMING AT ME WITH
THOSE BILLIARD BALLS
IS HIGHLY ADVISABLE
RIGHT NOW.

I'M SORRY.
I REALLY--I DIDN'T
EVEN WANT TO
BE HERE.



Take Jackpot down.





THEY MIGHT BE TRYING TO KILL ME, BUT THEY'RE ALSO VICTIMS. JUST LIKE FELICIA.



I'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE. NOT TO PROTECT MYSELF. BUT TO PROTECT THEM.

UP HERE, I'M
SURROUNDED
BY SILENCE
ONCE AGAIN.

THE WIND WISPS
AROUND ME,
WRAPPING ME IN ITS
TIGHT EMBRACE.



AND THAT'S WHEN
I REALIZE IT'S PREPARING
ME FOR ANOTHER STORM.



I underestimated you, Jackpot. You're
strong. Instead of taking you down,
I'll make you my weapon.

Complete a heist for me
this afternoon. If you
refuse, I'll kill Paul.



A STORM TREACHEROUS
AND VIOLENT ENOUGH TO
ROCK MY ENTIRE WORLD.



ANONYMOUS KNOWS WHO I AM. I COULDN'T GET AHEAD OF THE SILENCE THIS TIME.

WHAT DID YOU DO, RED?!

Take down Jackpot!

I underestimated you, Jackpot. You're strong. Instead of taking you down, I'll make you my weapon.

Complete a heist for me this afternoon. If you refuse, I'll kill Paul.



MY LAST ACTING SCHOOL HAD THIS GIANT STATUE OF THE COMEDY AND TRAGEDY MASKS OUT FRONT.

WHAT IF WYATT WAS LYING? MAYBE HE REALLY IS OBSCURA.

THEN WHY WOULD THAT ASSASSIN TRY TO TAKE HIM OUT?

BEFORE HE ESCAPED, WYATT SAID THE OBSCURA APP CODE WAS STOLEN.

I ALWAYS THOUGHT THE MASKS REPRESENTED OPPOSITE ENDS OF THE EMOTIONAL SPECTRUM.

BUT NOW I REALIZE TRAGEDY AND COMEDY MUST GO HAND IN HAND. SOMETIMES THE PAIN IS SO OVERWHELMING, YOU'VE GOT TO LAUGH ABOUT IT.

MJ?
ARE YOU OKAY?

DOES THIS FACE LOOK OKAY TO YOU, PAUL?

SHE'S IN SHOCK.

BOOP

MARCHING ORDERS FROM OBSCURA. THEY WANT ME TO BREAK INTO ONE OF WHITE RABBIT'S MONEY-LAUNDERING OPERATIONS.

THAT'S A BOLD ASK FOR YOUR FIRST RODEO.

GUESS THEY THINK I CAN PULL IT OFF...

NO. OBSCURA DOESN'T CARE IF YOU GET CAUGHT. YOU'RE JUST A PAWN IN THEIR GAME. IF YOU'RE KNOCKED OFF THE BOARD, THEY'LL JUST FIND SOMEONE ELSE TO TAKE YOUR PLACE.

I'M GOING TO TRACK THEM DOWN. END THIS BEFORE EITHER OF YOU HAS TO PULL ANOTHER HEIST.

BUT YOU SAID THEY SEVER THE CONNECTION AS SOON AS EACH TEXT COMES THROUGH.

I'LL FIND ANOTHER WAY.



I KNOW YOU WANT ME SAFE, PAUL. BUT THIS IS *YOUR LIFE* ON THE LINE. AND IF I CAN PROTECT YOU BY DOING THIS HEIST, THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I'M GOING TO DO.

CAN I WEIGH IN?



I'M LOOKING FOR UNCONDITIONAL SUPPORT.

ALL YOU'RE GETTING FROM ME IS SOMEONE WHO WANTS YOU TO MAKE IT OUT OF THIS ALIVE.

PULLING A HEIST IS AN ART FORM, RED.

BEFORE YOU GO DIVING IN, YOU'VE GOTTA LEARN THE TRICKS OF THE TRADE. PUT IN YOUR 10,000 HOURS. BECAUSE IF YOU MAKE ONE WRONG MOVE, IT'S NOT JUST OBSCURA'S ASSASSINS YOU'LL HAVE TRACKING YOU DOWN. IT'S ALL OF WHITE RABBIT'S PEOPLE TOO.



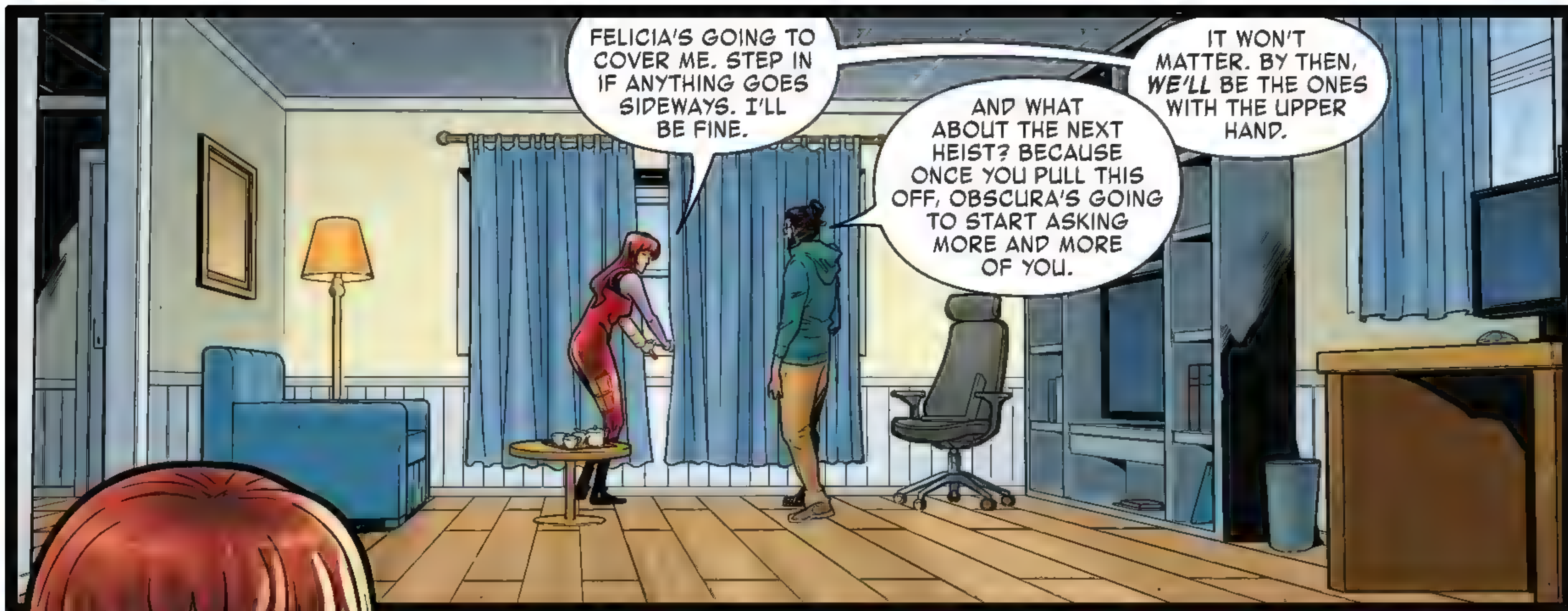
I KNOW IT'S DANGEROUS. OF COURSE I DO. BUT WOULDN'T YOU JUMP INTO THE FIRE TO PROTECT AMELIA?

FINE. BUT IF YOU'RE PULLING THIS HEIST, I'M COMING WITH YOU.

AND BEFORE YOU ANSWER, KNOW I'M ALSO LOOKING FOR UNCONDITIONAL SUPPORT.



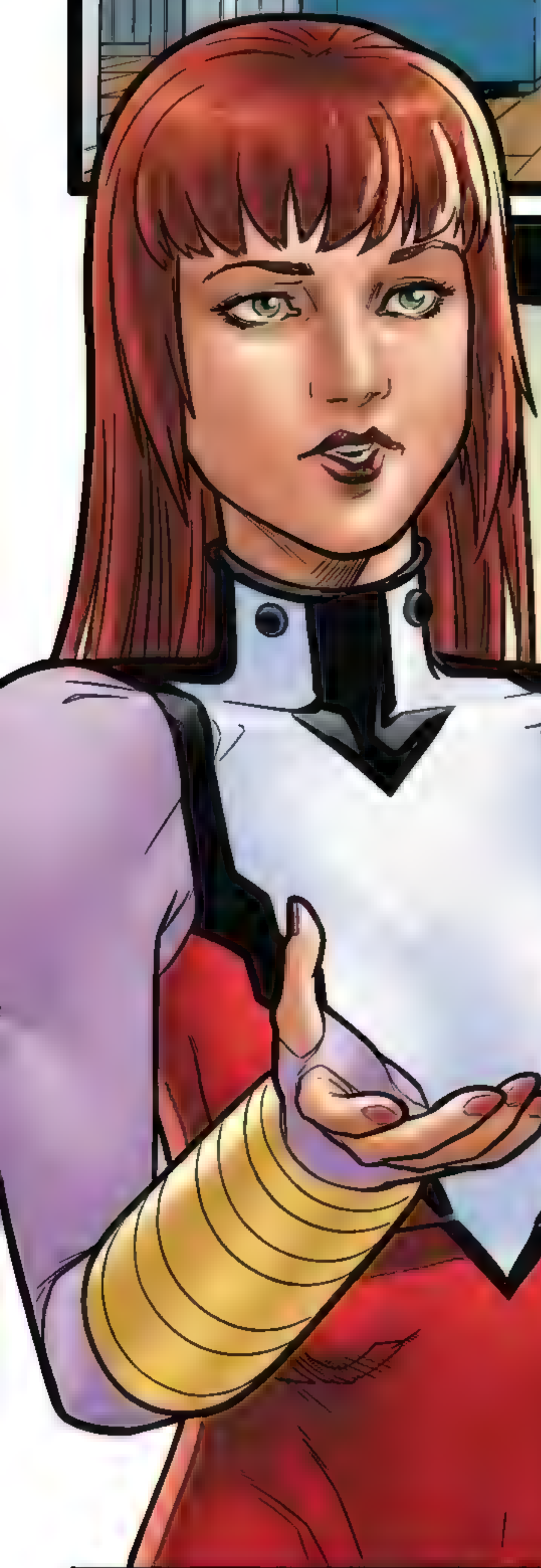
I'LL TEXT YOU THE DETAILS.



FELICIA'S GOING TO COVER ME. STEP IN IF ANYTHING GOES SIDWAYS. I'LL BE FINE.

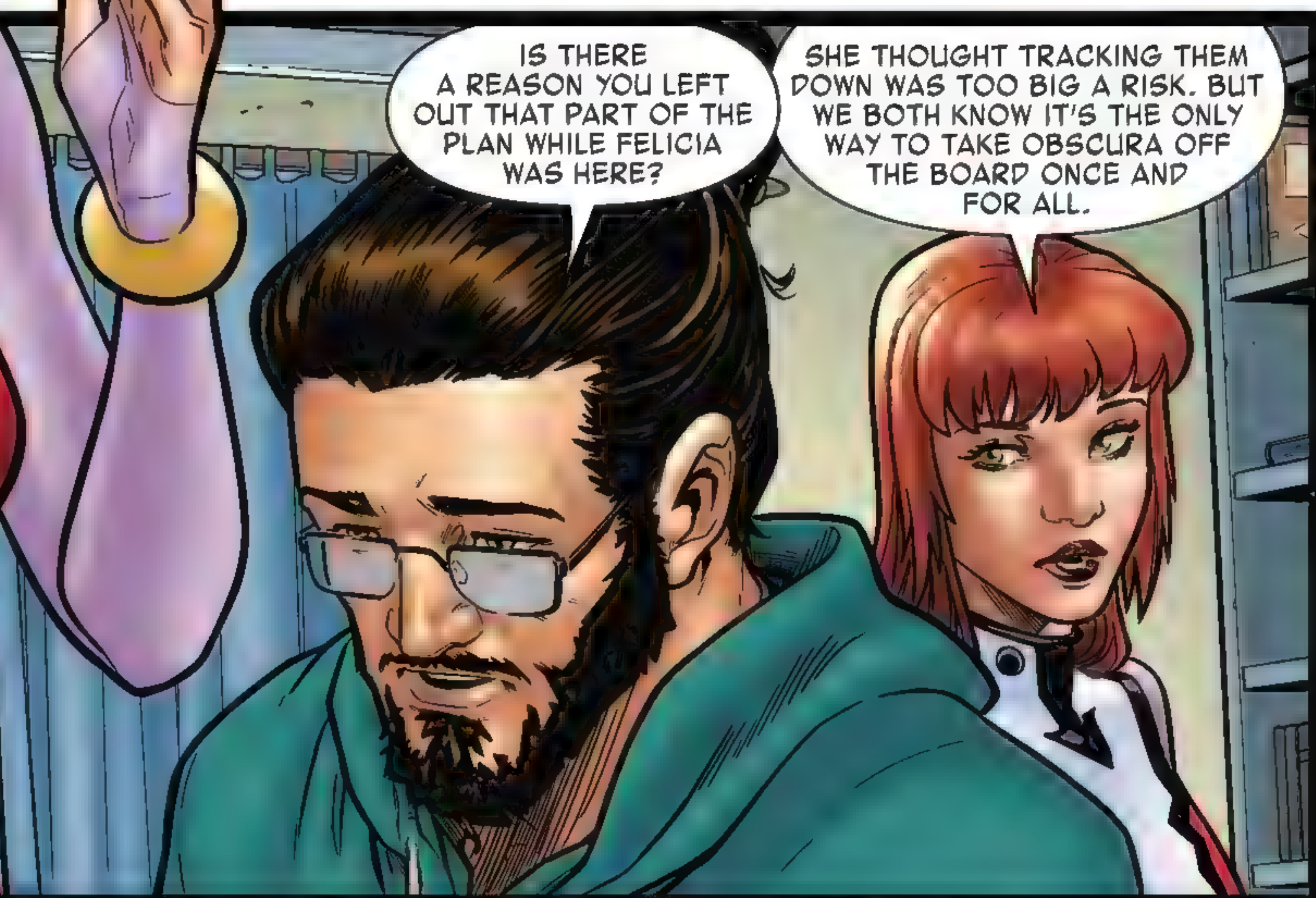
AND WHAT ABOUT THE NEXT HEIST? BECAUSE ONCE YOU PULL THIS OFF, OBSCURA'S GOING TO START ASKING MORE AND MORE OF YOU.

IT WON'T MATTER. BY THEN, WE'LL BE THE ONES WITH THE UPPER HAND.



YOU SAID YOU COULDN'T TRACK OBSCURA BECAUSE THEY SEVER THEIR CONNECTION AFTER EACH TEXT COMES THROUGH...

...BUT WHILE I'M PERFORMING THE HEIST, THEY'LL HAVE TO KEEP AN ACTIVE LINE, WHICH SHOULD GIVE YOU ENOUGH TIME TO TRIANGULATE THEIR SIGNAL.



IS THERE A REASON YOU LEFT OUT THAT PART OF THE PLAN WHILE FELICIA WAS HERE?

SHE THOUGHT TRACKING THEM DOWN WAS TOO BIG A RISK. BUT WE BOTH KNOW IT'S THE ONLY WAY TO TAKE OBSCURA OFF THE BOARD ONCE AND FOR ALL.



NO. IT'S TOO COMPLICATED.

I KNOW YOU, PAUL. YOU'LL FIGURE IT OUT.

IT'S NOT THE TECH...



LOOK, I KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE TO FOLLOW SOMEONE ELSE'S INSTRUCTION WITHOUT QUESTION. IT'S WHAT MY DAD ASKED OF ME ALL THOSE YEARS AGO.

HE TWISTED THE TRUTH IN WAYS I COULDN'T HAVE FORESEEN, AND IT DESTROYED MY WORLD. THE PAIN OF IT...THE REGRET IS SOMETHING I LIVE WITH EVERY DAY.



I KNOW.

IF YOU AGREE TO THIS HEIST, YOU'LL BE AS IN THE DARK AS I WAS BACK THEN.

I DON'T WANT YOU FORCED INTO MAKING A DECISION YOU'LL REGRET.



I'M NOT OBSCURA'S PUPPET. IF THEY TUG ON MY STRINGS, I KNOW HOW TO TUG RIGHT BACK.

YOU MAKE IT SOUND EASY.



WHEN IT'S YOU AND FELICIA I'M FIGHTING FOR, IT IS.

CHELSEA,
MANHATTAN.

OBSCURA
WANTS ME TO WAIT
HERE FOR FURTHER
INSTRUCTIONS.

STRANGE
LOCATION FOR
A FRONT USED TO
FUNNEL ILLEGAL
CASH.

THE CRIMINALS
WHO HIDE IN PLAIN
SIGHT ARE ALWAYS THE
MOST DANGEROUS,
RED.

IT'S
NOT TOO
LATE TO TURN
BACK.

WHY? DID
YOU WANT TO
LEAVE?

HA!

BOOP
BOOP

WE'VE GOT
AN ADDRESS.

AND
YOU'RE NOT
GOING TO
LIKE IT...

I FOUGHT A
SINGING GRIZZLY
BEAR AT THE ZOO
LAST WEEK.

NOTHING'S
WORSE THAN
THAT.



OKAY.
THIS IS
WORSE.

WELCOME TO
YUM YUMMY YUMS,
FELLOW SWEET
TOOTHS!

WE'RE
SUPPOSED TO
HEAD THROUGH
THE BACK
ROOM.



MY NAME
IS GABE!

IF THIS IS
YOUR FIRST TIME
HERE, WE'VE GOT TWO
SUPER-IMPORTANT
RULES FOR YA.

THE FIRST
IS--HAVE FUN! THE
SECOND IS--HELP US
KEEP THINGS HYGIENIC BY
NOT STICKING YOUR
HANDS IN THE CANDY
BASKETS.

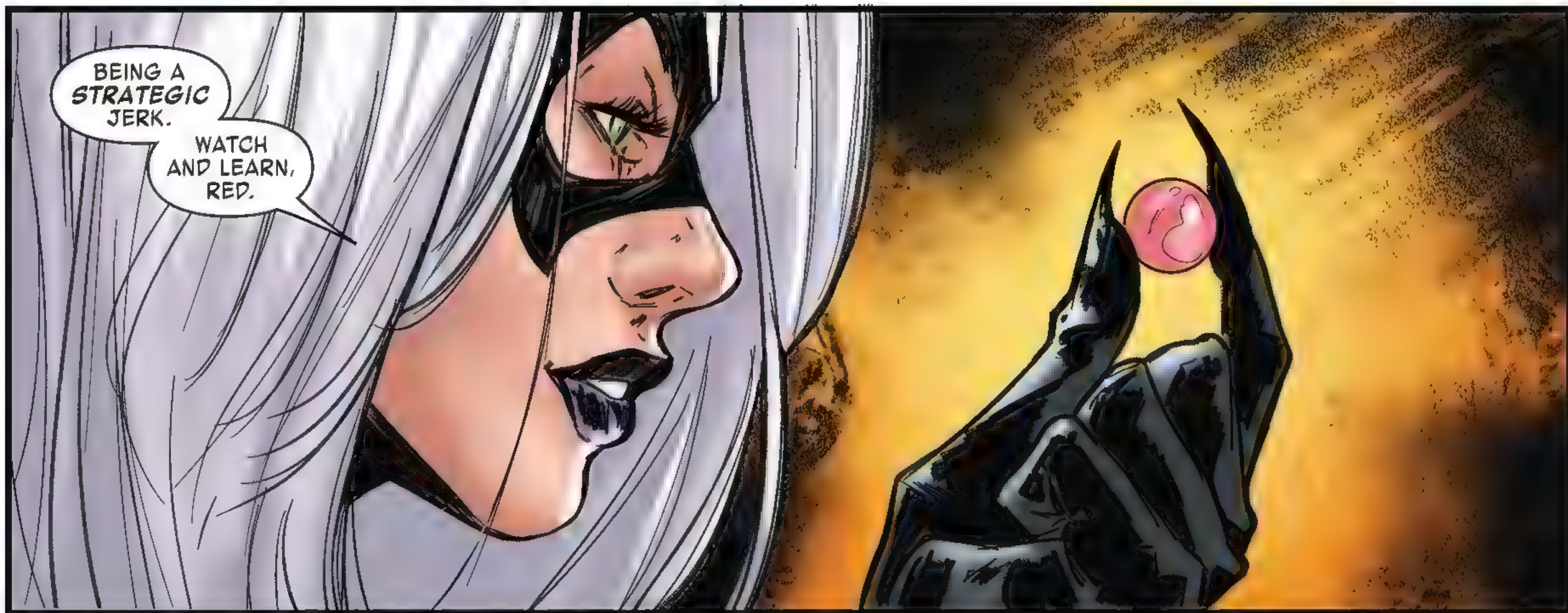


RULE TWO IS GOING
TO MAKE IT *REALLY*
HARD TO ENJOY
RULE ONE.

WE'LL
BE VERY
CAREFUL.

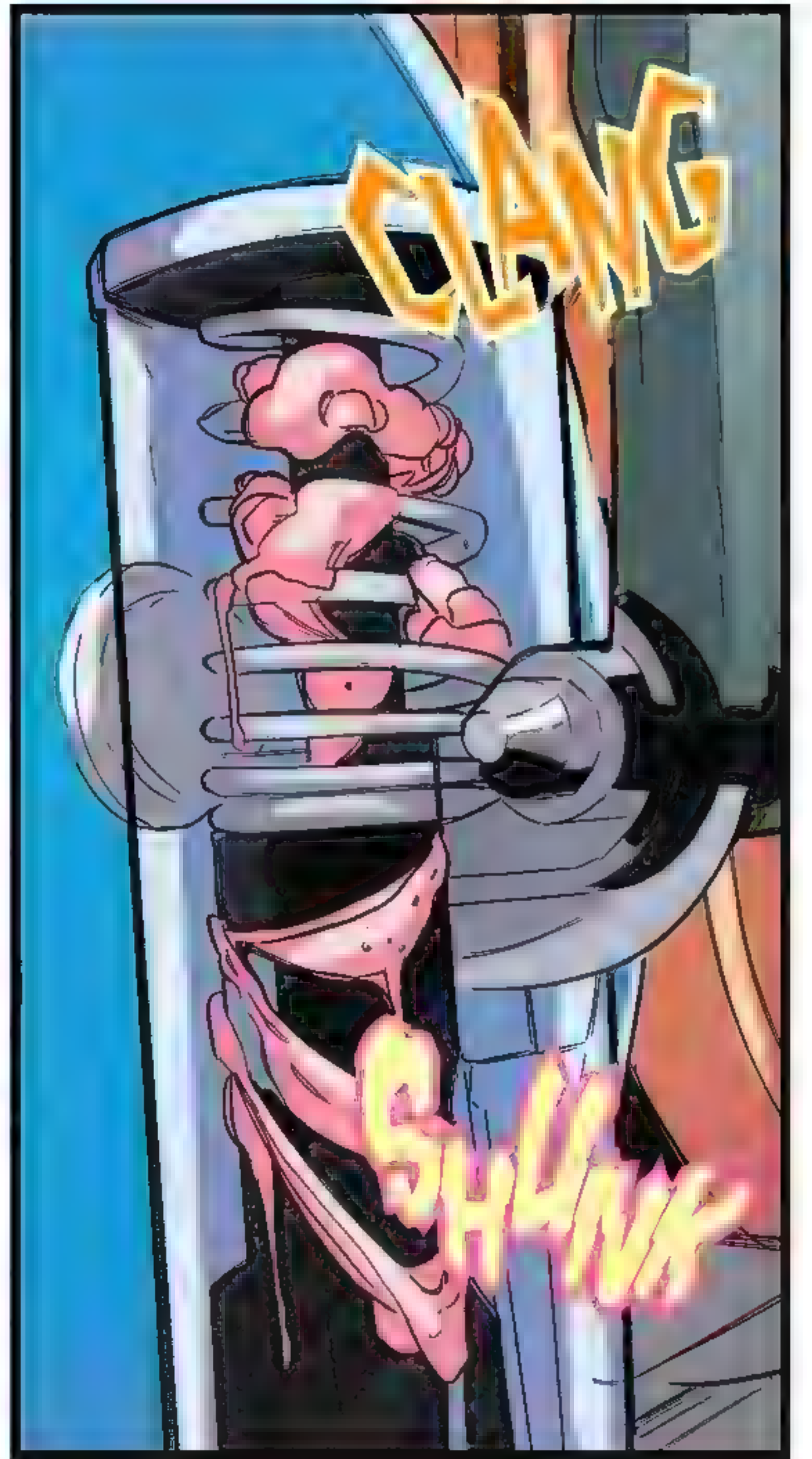
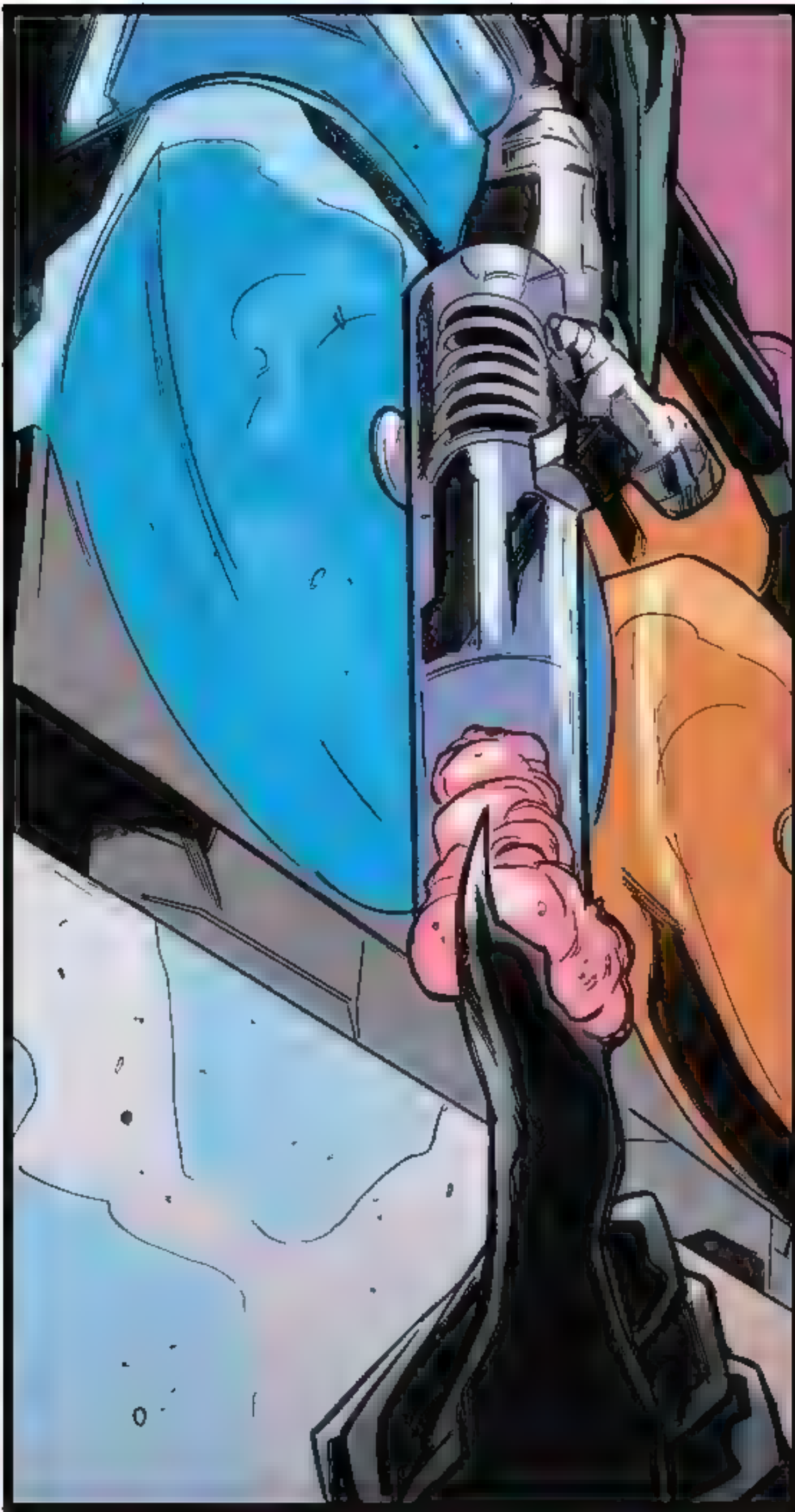
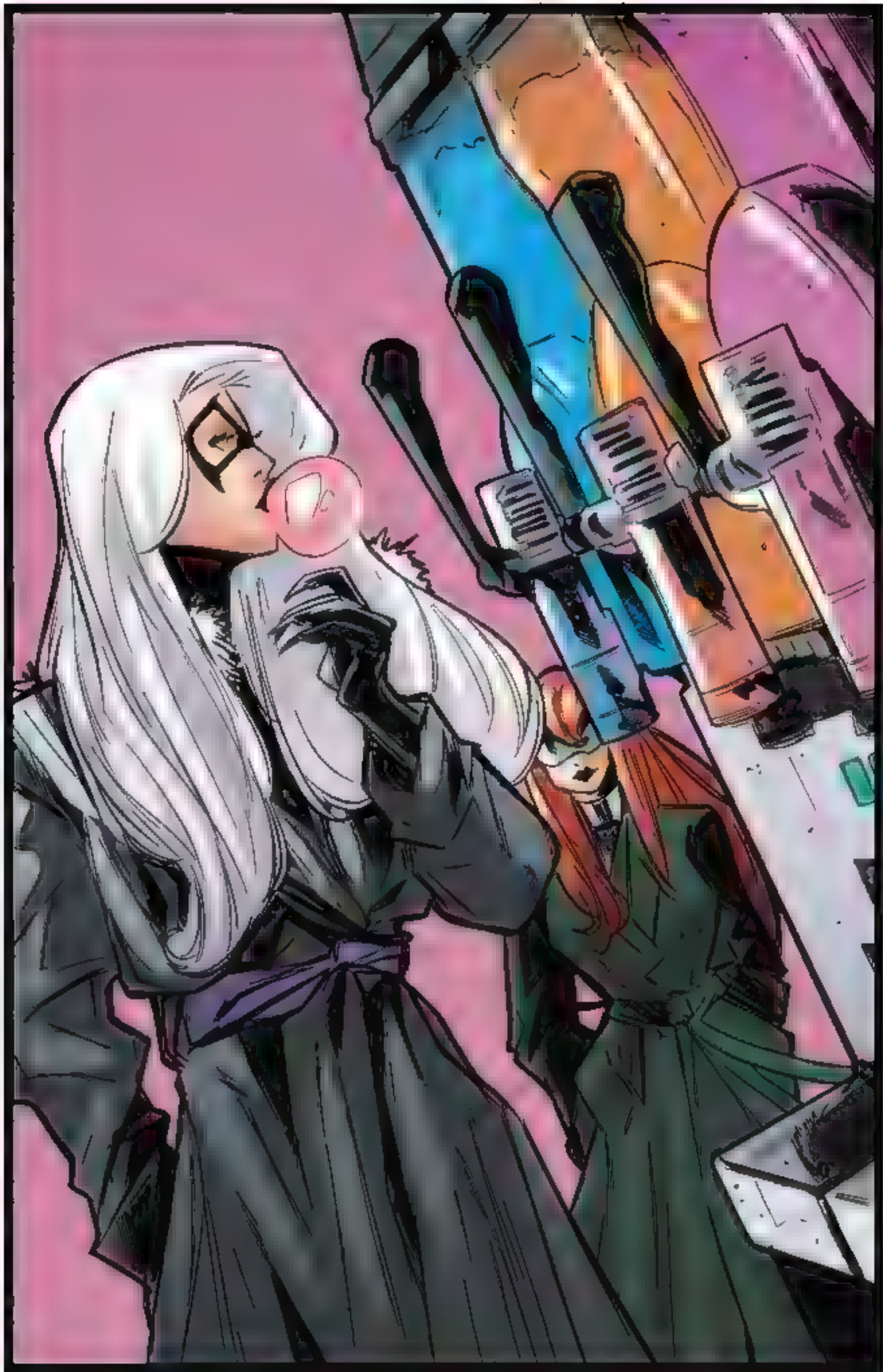


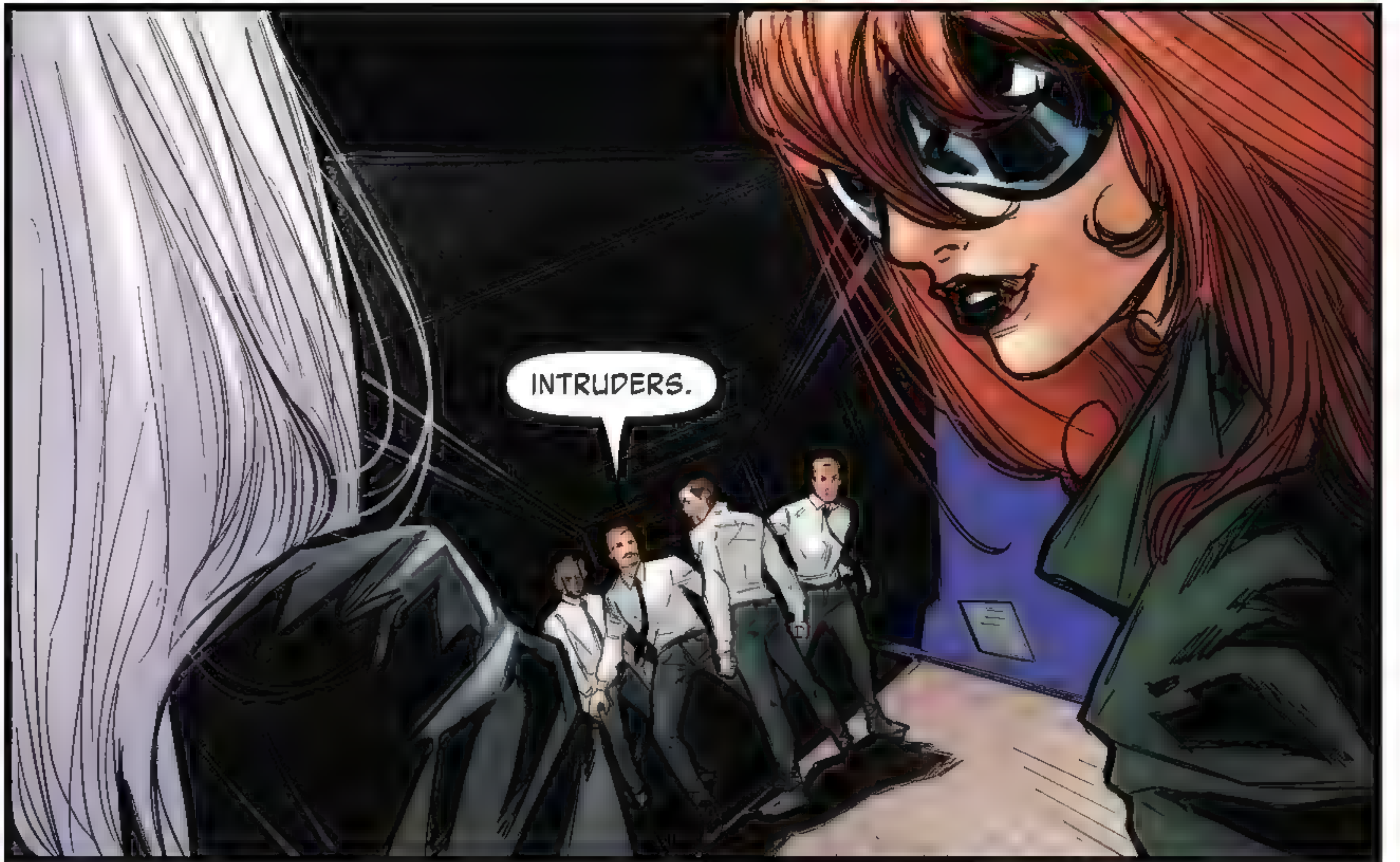
AH, I SEE
PULLING OFF A
HEIST INVOLVES
BEING A BIT
OF A JERK.

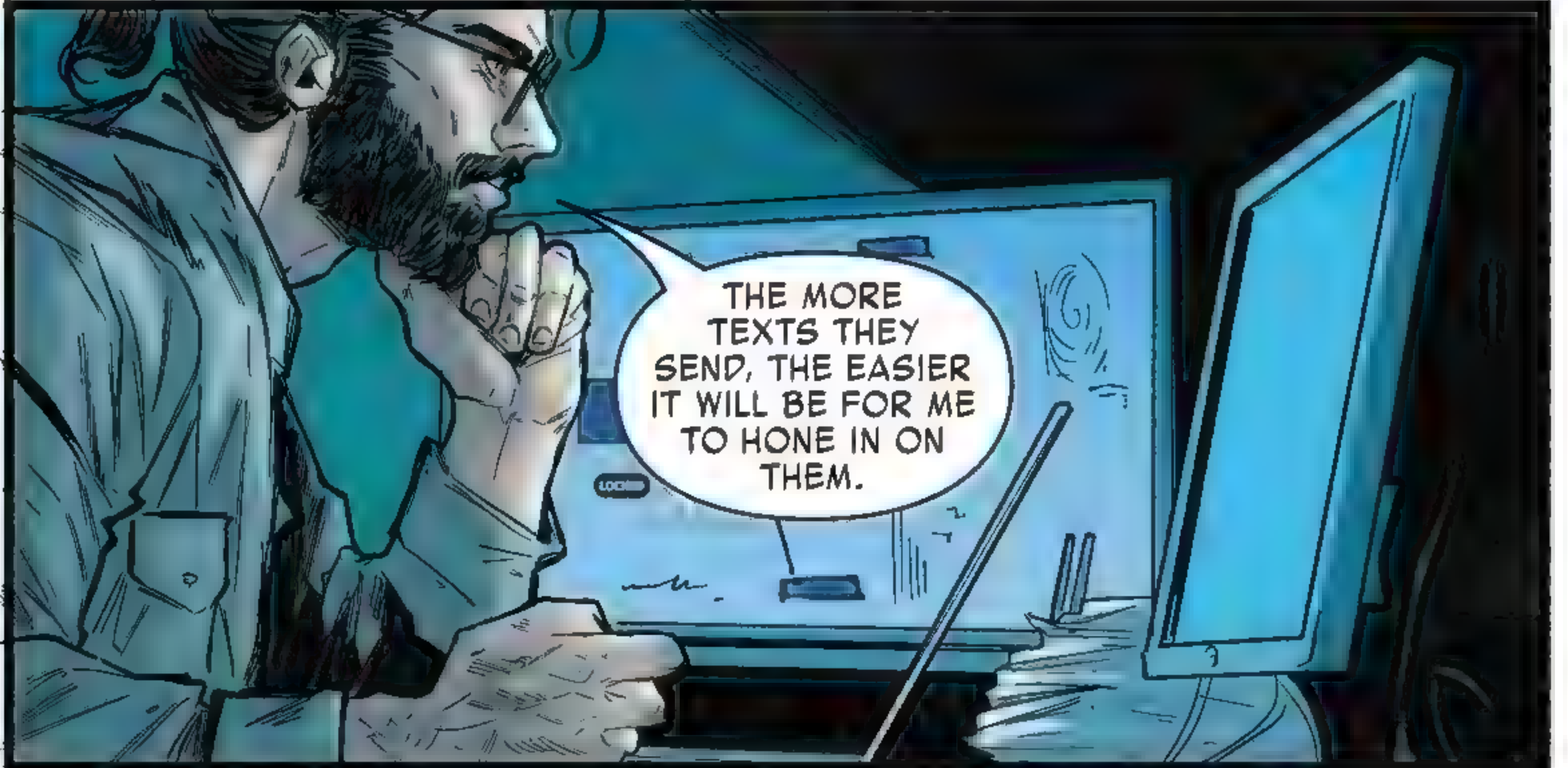
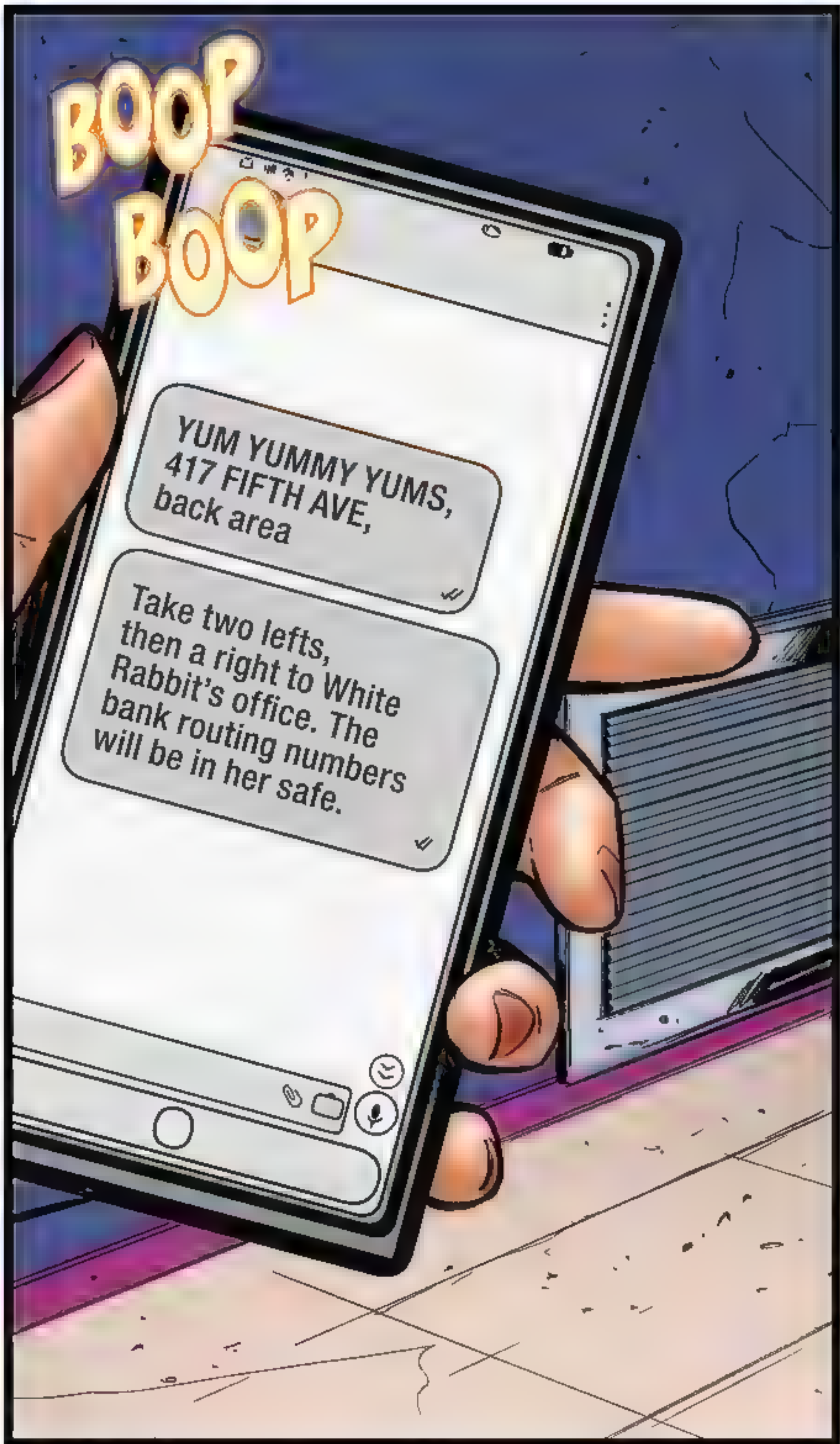


BEING A
STRATEGIC
JERK.

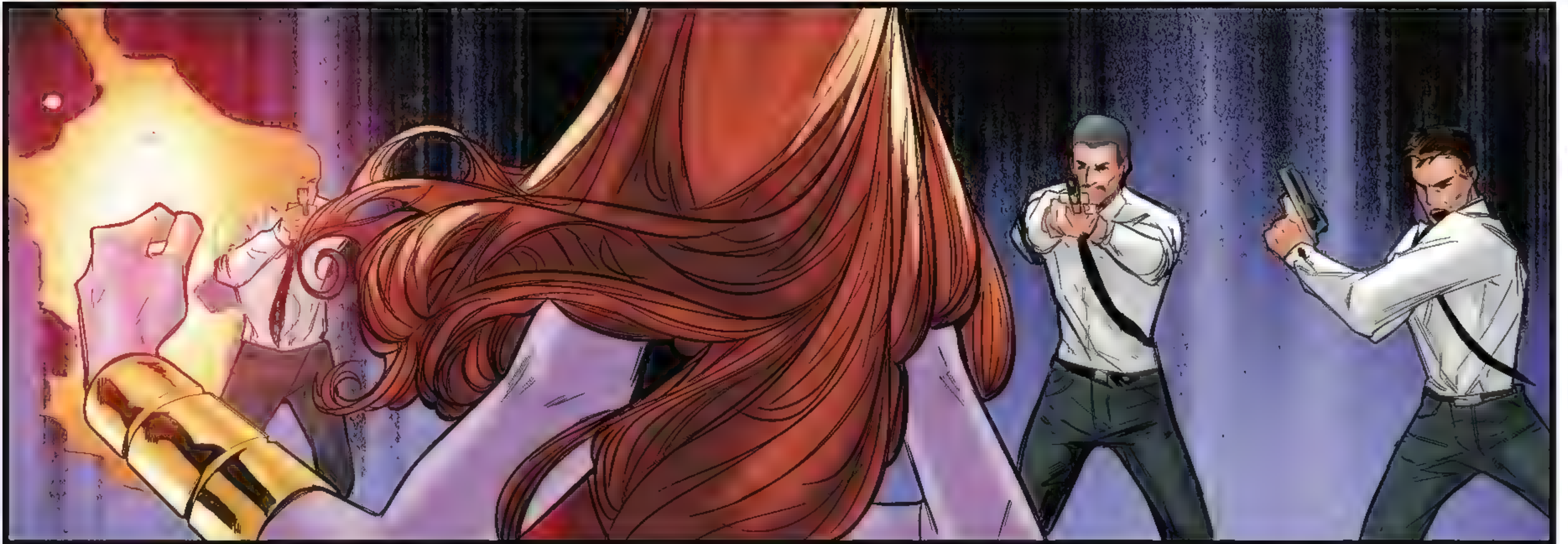
WATCH
AND LEARN,
RED.

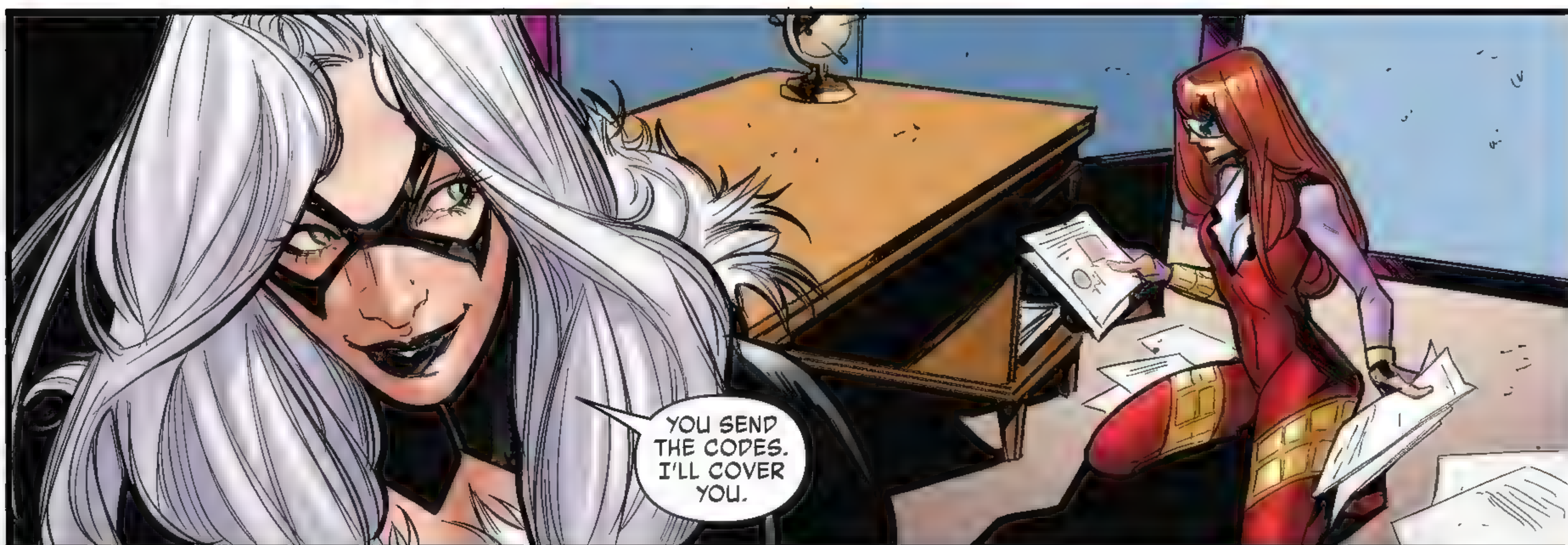
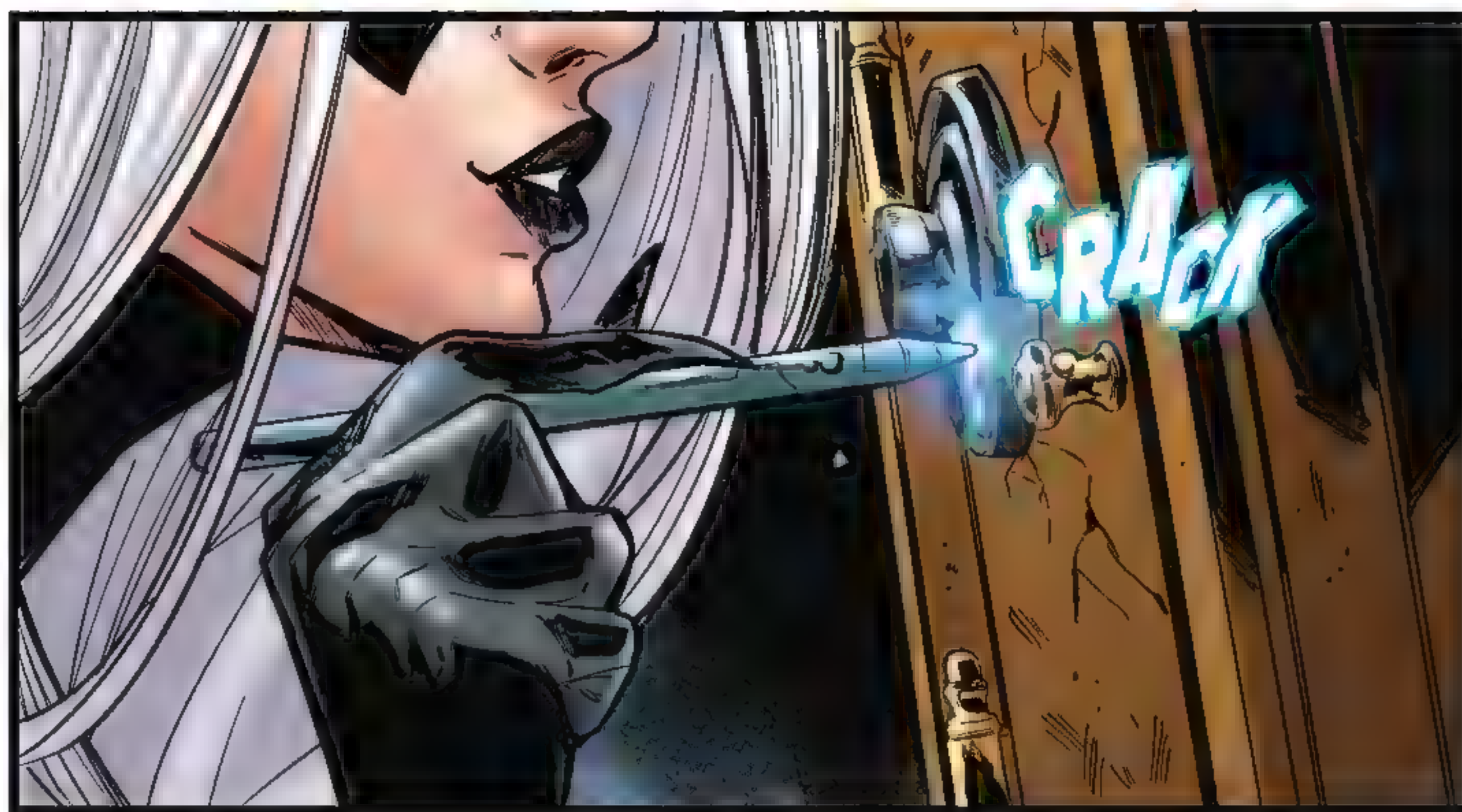




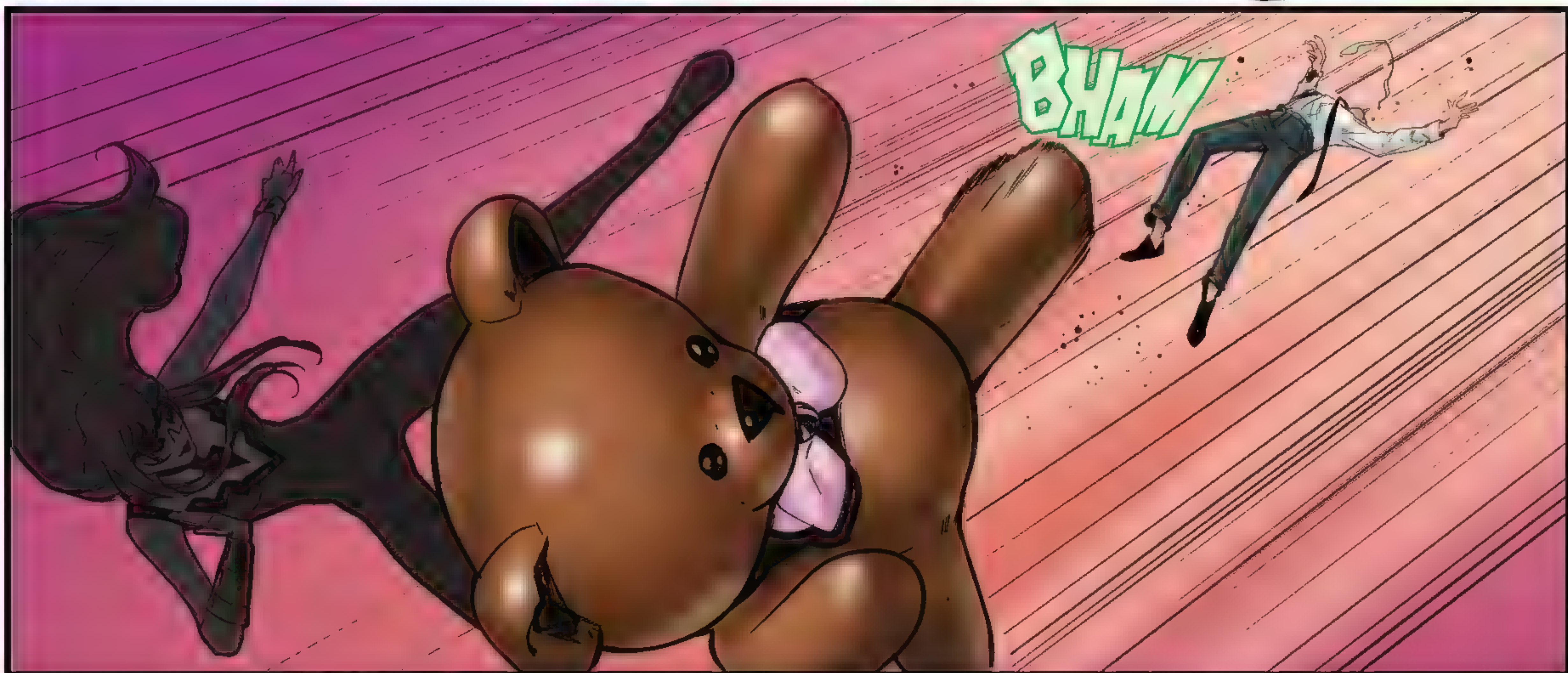


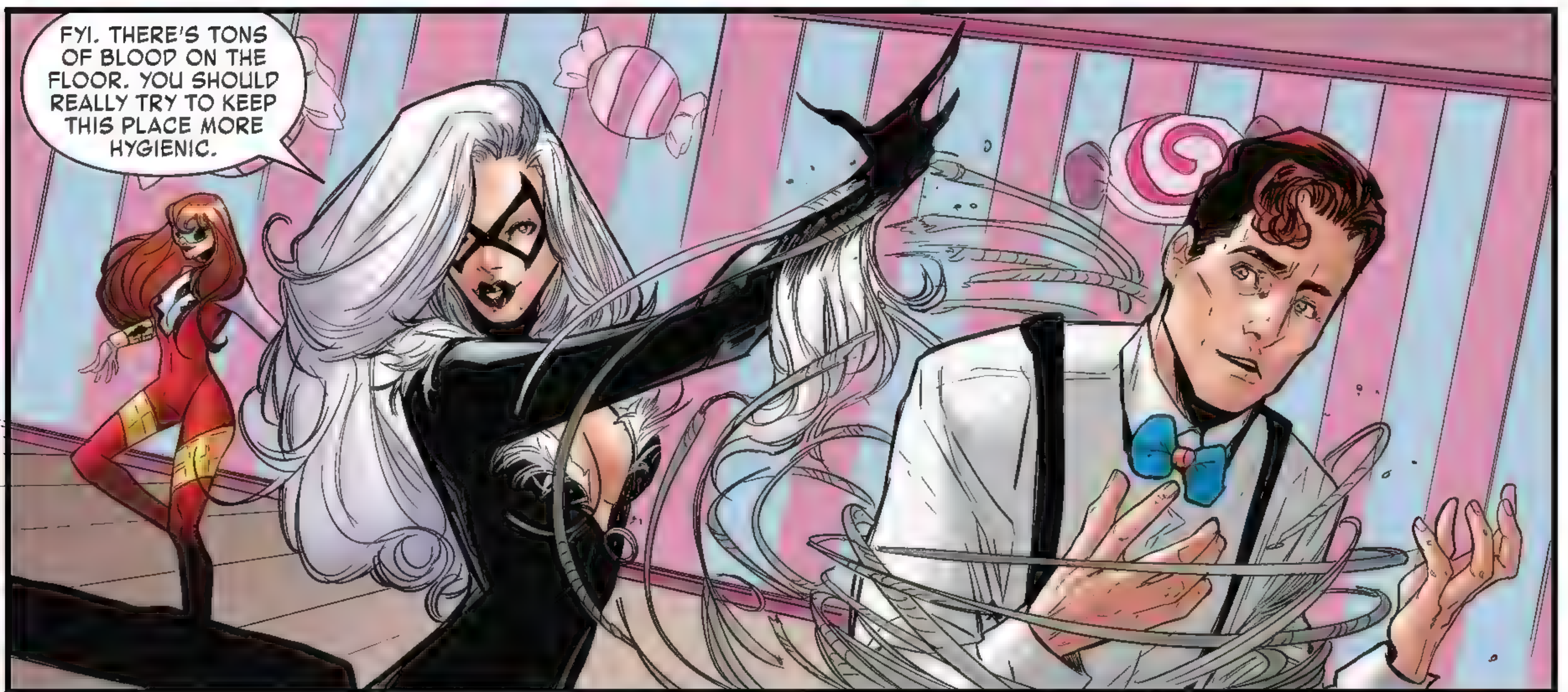














I AM IN
NEED OF FOOD.
MOUNDS OF IT! A FEAST.
AND I'LL TAKE IT WITH A
SIDE OF OBSCURA'S
TRUE IDENTITY,
PLEASE.

IS
FELICIA WITH
YOU?



SHE
HAD A DATE
WITH AMELIA.
WHY?

LAST YEAR,
AN EMPLOYEE OF
KINETIC FLOW HAD
A DISAGREEMENT
WITH WYATT.

SHE
WANTED CREDIT AND
COMPENSATION FOR
DEVELOPING THE SOURCE
CODE USED FOR THE LIFE2-
EXTREME APP. WYATT
DIDN'T WANT TO GIVE
IT TO HER.



SO THE EMPLOYEE
STOLE IT AND WENT
OFF THE GRID,
BECOMING...

OBSCURA.

OTHERWISE
KNOWN AS...



AMELIA MORROW.
A.K.A. BANDWIDTH.





NO STRESS. MR. HOOT AND I WERE JUST FIGURING OUT OUR NEXT BOOK-CLUB PICK.



BLACK CAT, BANDWIDTH...YOU WILL DO WELL TO REMEMBER MY TIME IS MORE VALUABLE THAN BOTH OF YOUR LIVES.



DRAMATIC MUCH?

HERE'S THIS WEEK'S HAUL. IT'S WHAT WE DISCUSSED.



COUNT IT UP, AND GIVE THEM THIRTY-FIVE PERCENT.

NOT THAT I'D EVER ACCUSE YOU OF RIPPING US OFF...BUT I DO REMEMBER US AGREEING ON FORTY.

OR WAS IT TWENTY-FIVE?



HAVE YOU SEEN THE INFLATION RATES IN THIS CITY? TWENTY-FIVE WON'T COVER GROCERIES.

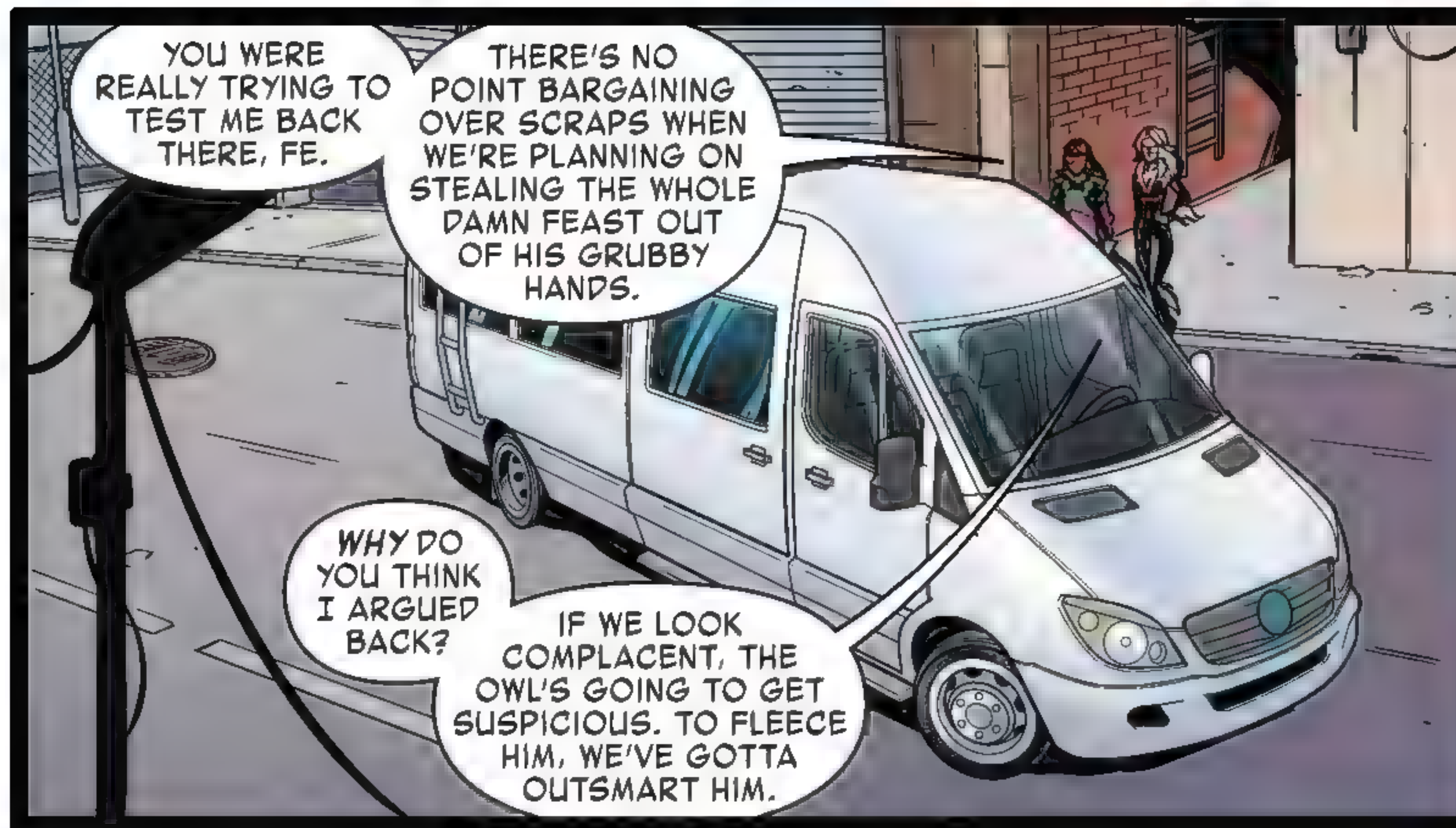


I DON'T WANT ANY TROUBLE.

I'M SURE THAT TOGETHER, WE CAN COME UP WITH A PEACEFUL SOLUTION.



A THIRTY-FIVE-PERCENT SHARE IS EXTREMELY GENEROUS. THANK YOU.



YOU WERE REALLY TRYING TO TEST ME BACK THERE, FE.

THERE'S NO POINT BARGAINING OVER SCRAPS WHEN WE'RE PLANNING ON STEALING THE WHOLE DAMN FEAST OUT OF HIS GRUBBY HANDS.

WHY DO YOU THINK I ARGUED BACK?

IF WE LOOK COMPLACENT, THE OWL'S GOING TO GET SUSPICIOUS. TO FLEECE HIM, WE'VE GOTTA OUTSMART HIM.



SMART, BUT I STILL THINK IT WAS AN EXERCISE IN AGONY.

I'M THE ONE WHO HAS HISTORY WITH THAT BIRD BRAIN. BESIDES, ISN'T OUR LOVE WORTH THE PAIN?

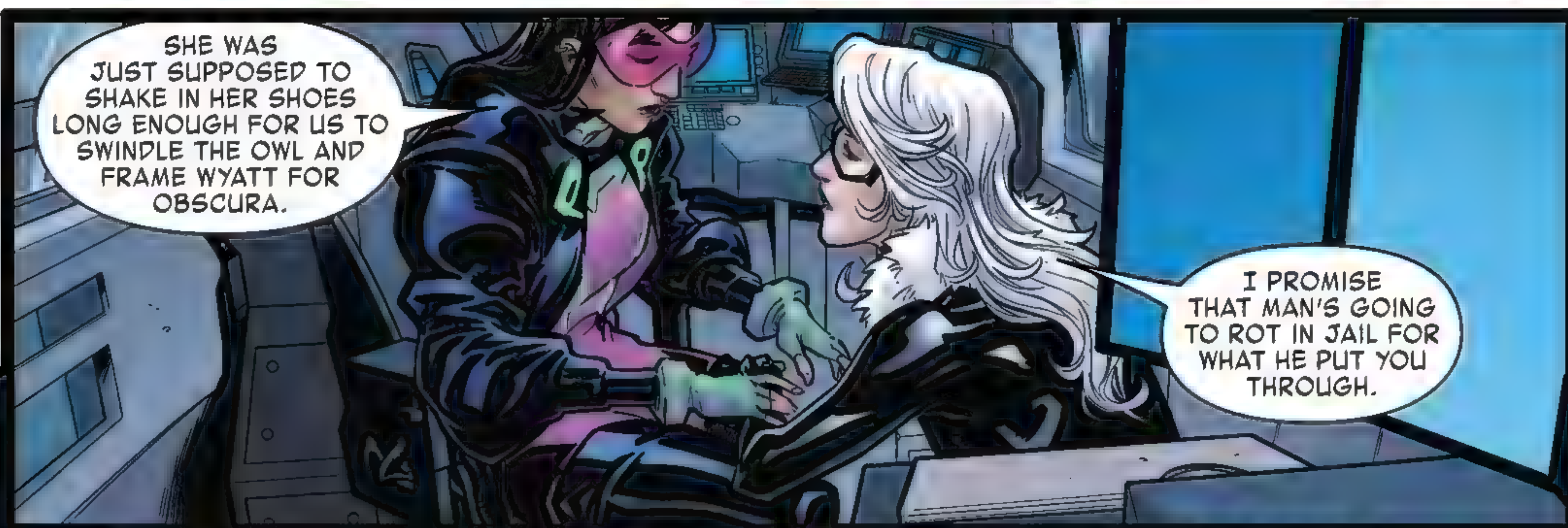
YOU'RE RIGHT, BABE.



WELL, I DO HAVE ONE MORE REQUEST--IN THE NAME OF LOVE AND ALL THAT.

COULD YOU LAY OFF JACKPOT?

IF I KNEW YOU WERE FRIENDS, I WOULDN'T HAVE ASKED HER TO PULL THAT HEIST.



SHE WAS JUST SUPPOSED TO SHAKE IN HER SHOES LONG ENOUGH FOR US TO SWINDLE THE OWL AND FRAME WYATT FOR OBSCURA.

I PROMISE THAT MAN'S GOING TO ROT IN JAIL FOR WHAT HE PUT YOU THROUGH.



I LOVE YOU, FE.

I LOVE YOU TOO.





AMELIA'S APARTMENT

THIS HAS GOTTA BE ENOUGH TO BUY A PRIVATE JET. I KNOW IT'S BAD FOR THE ENVIRONMENT...



...BUT THE RAIN MESSED UP MY HAIR THE OTHER DAY, AND I NEED TO SETTLE THE SCORE.

UGH. MY WI-FI'S DOWN. AGAIN.

ARE YOU GETTING SERVICE?

BRR-ING
BRR-ING



LET ME CHECK.

I SWEAR OUR CONNECTION GETS WORSE EVERY TIME THAT MAINTENANCE PERSON COMES IN TO FIX IT...

MJ

I know who Obscura is.

You're in danger.

ANSWER YOUR PHONE.

FELICIA, PICK UP!



I'M PROPOSING A SCREENLESS DAY.

WAS THE QUESTION-- WHAT IS MY WORST NIGHTMARE?

COME ON, MY WI-FI'S OUT TOO.



AND NO SCREENS MEANS MORE TIME FOR EYE CONTACT. COULD BE KIND OF HOT?

KNOCK
KNOCK



GOOD MORNING!
ANYONE UP FOR CROISSANTS?



WELL, THIS IS UNEXPECTED, RED...

I TRIED CALLING. AND TEXTING. WE WERE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD, SO I FIGURED--WHY NOT STOP BY AND FINALLY MEET AMELIA?



YOU TOLD HER WHICH APARTMENT I LIVE IN?

...I MIGHT HAVE MENTIONED IT.

SHOULD I PLATE THE CROISSANTS?

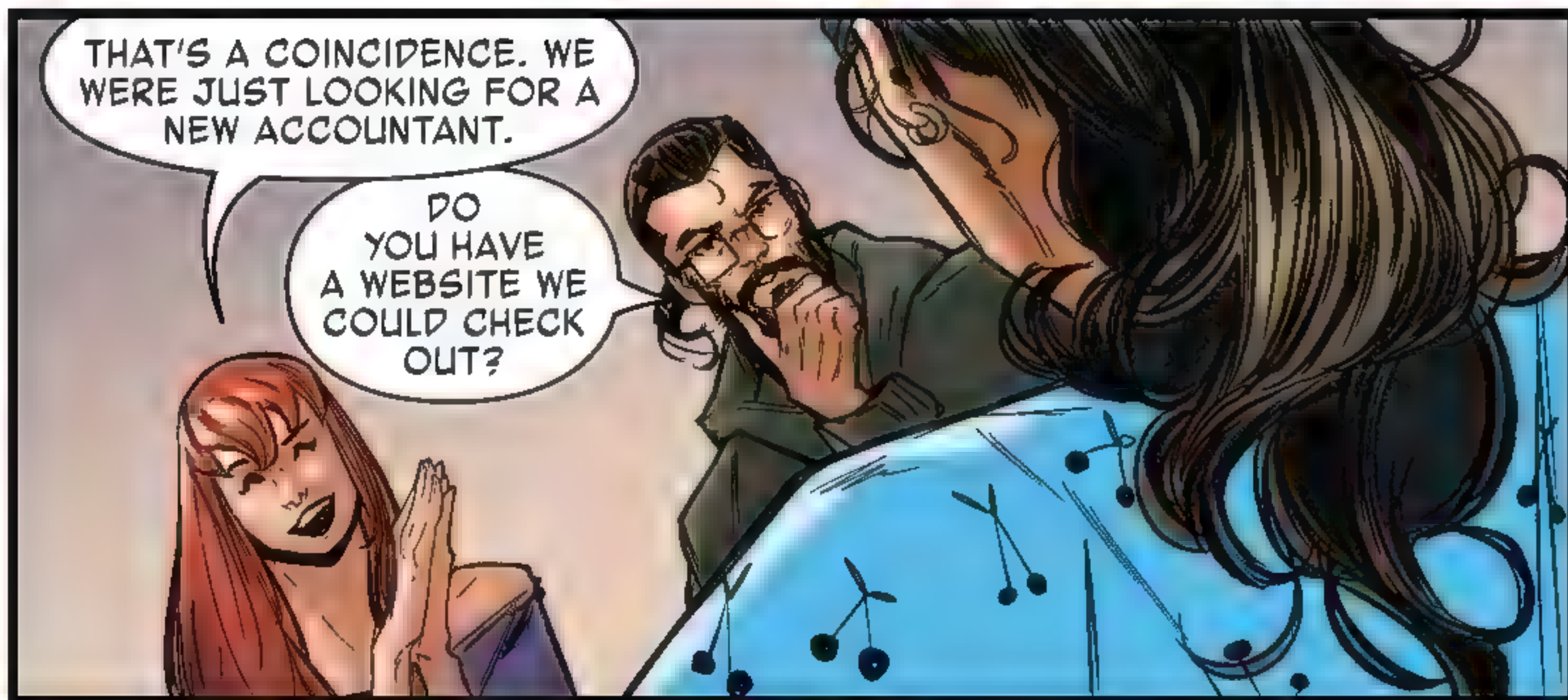
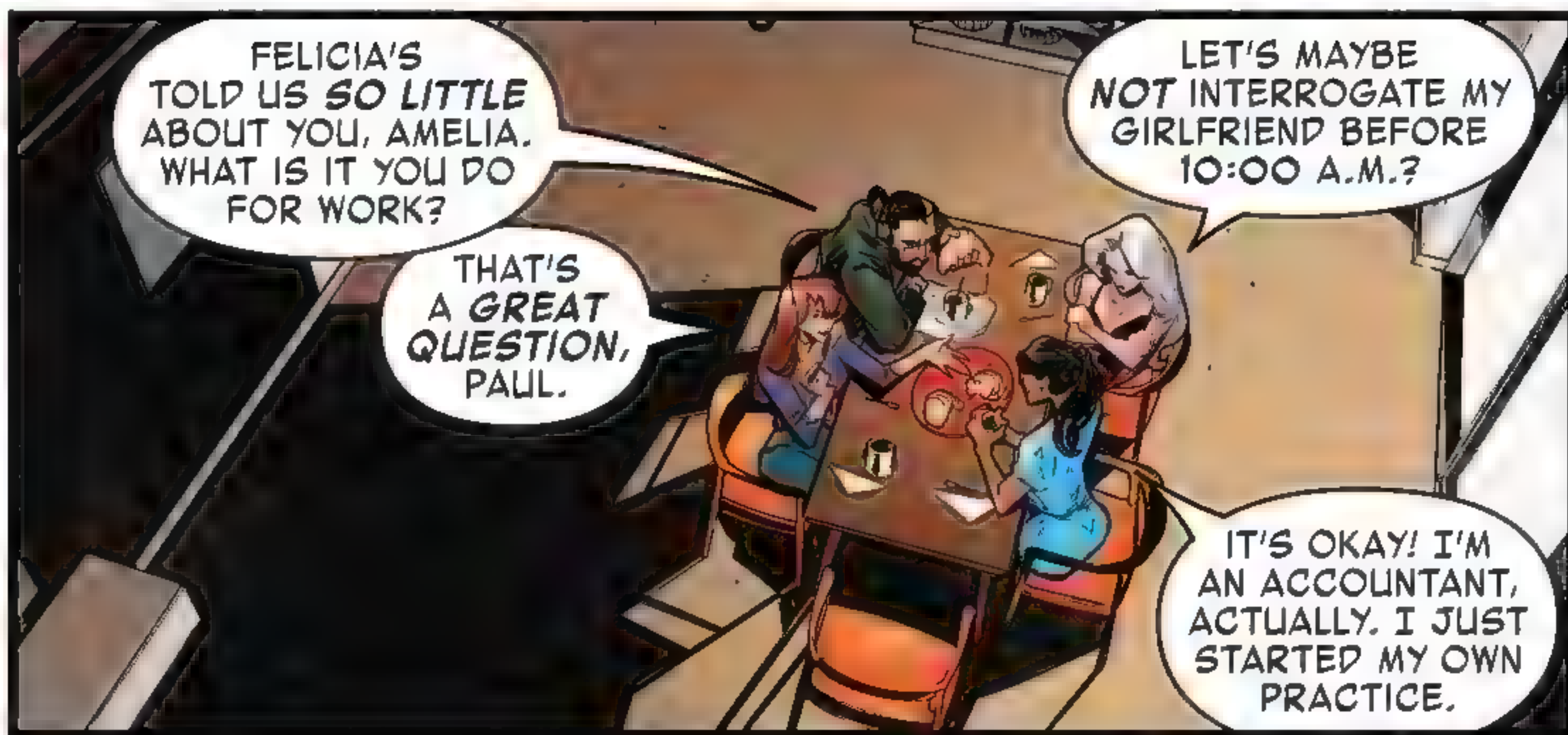
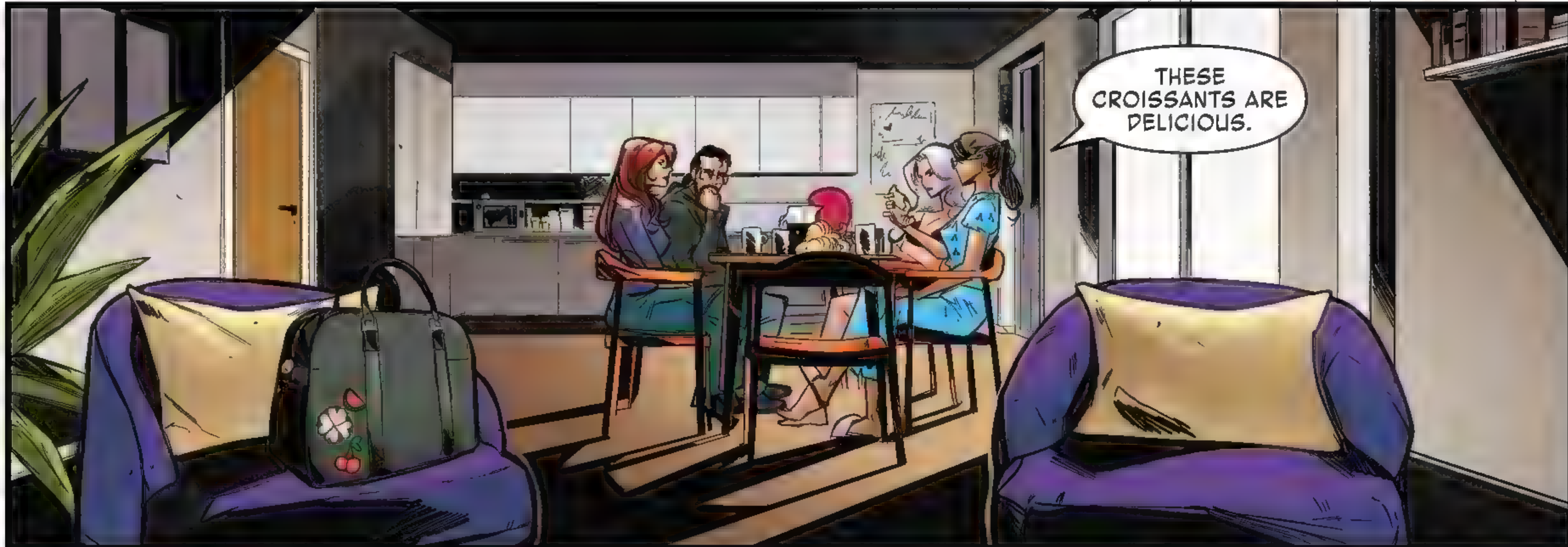


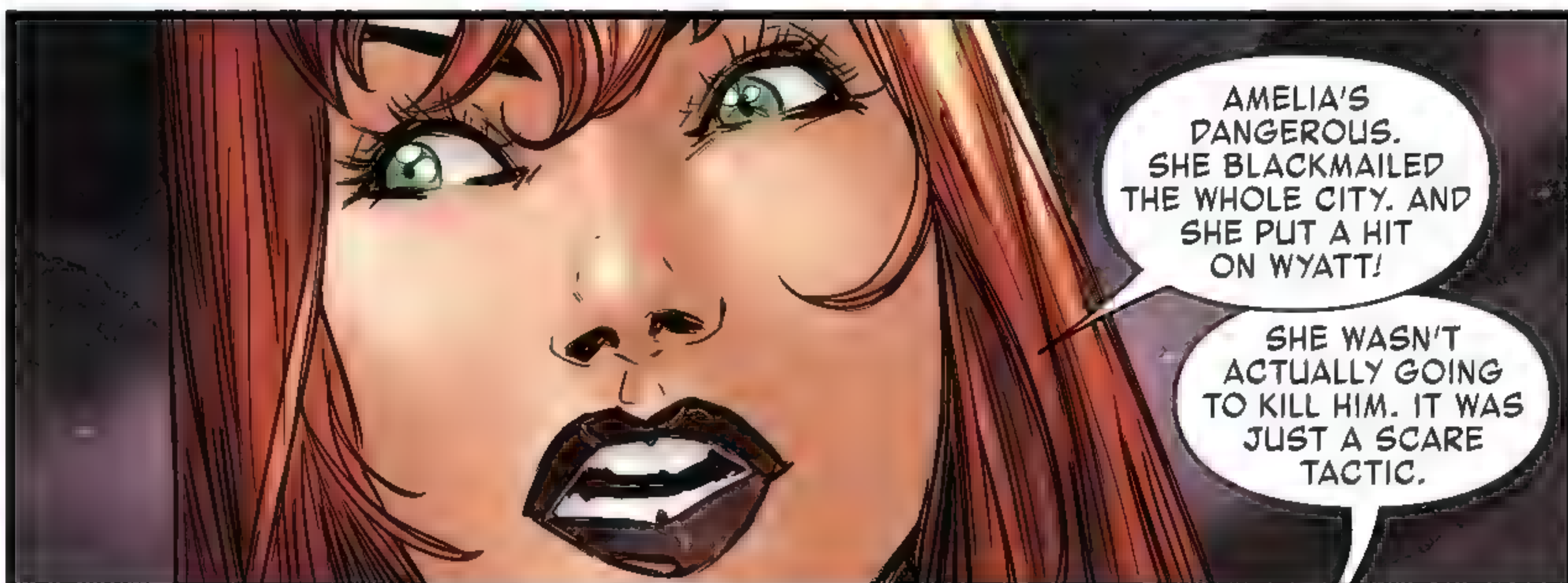
I CAN'T THINK OF A REASON WHY NOT.

CAN YOU, FE?

NOPE...?

THAT'S THE SORT OF ENTHUSIASM WE LOVE TO HEAR.







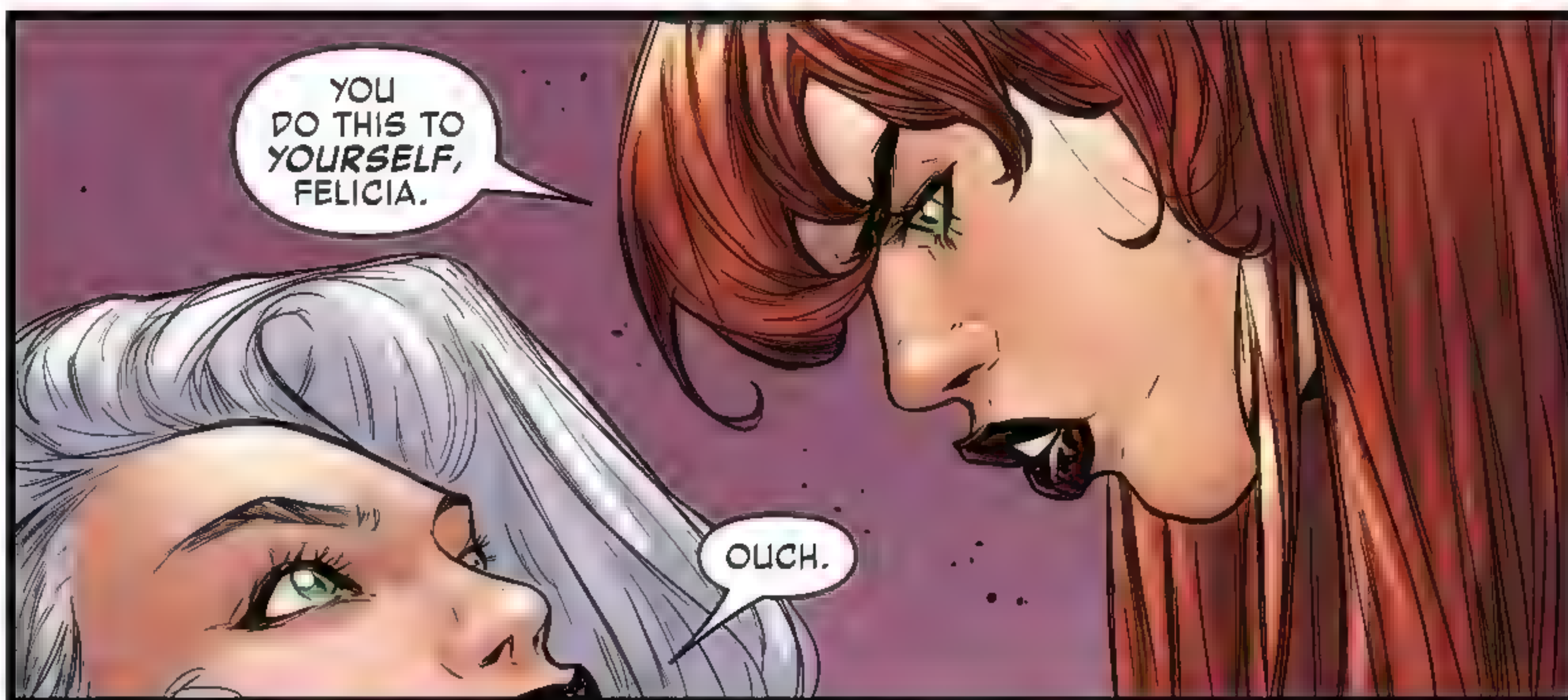
PAUL LOOKED INTO HER HISTORY. AMELIA, OR **BANDWIDTH** AS SHE LIKES TO CALL HERSELF, DOUBLE-CROSSED KINETIC FLOW. WE KNOW SHE'S GOING TO FLEECE THE OWL NEXT.

WHAT MAKES YOU THINK SHE WON'T BETRAY YOU TOO?

MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT. MAYBE SHE IS JUST USING ME TO GET HER WAY...

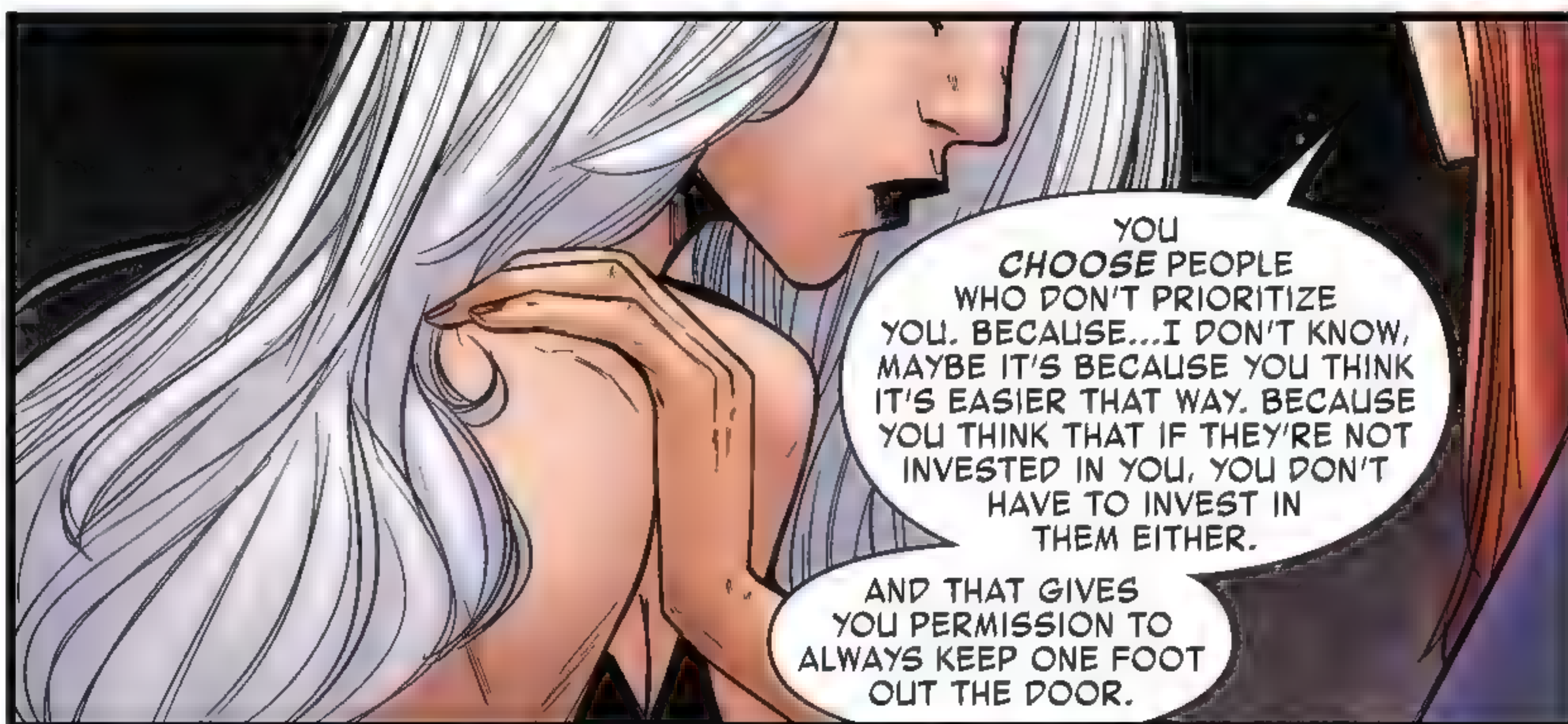


...IF THAT'S THE CASE, AND I'M JUST AN AFTERTHOUGHT TO HER, I'LL DEAL WITH THE HEARTBREAK AS IT COMES. AND I'LL GET OVER IT. BECAUSE THAT'S WHAT I DO. IT GETS EASIER WITH EXPERIENCE.



YOU DO THIS TO YOURSELF, FELICIA.

OUCH.



YOU **CHOOSE** PEOPLE WHO DON'T PRIORITIZE YOU. BECAUSE...I DON'T KNOW, MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE YOU THINK IT'S EASIER THAT WAY. BECAUSE YOU THINK THAT IF THEY'RE NOT INVESTED IN YOU, YOU DON'T HAVE TO INVEST IN THEM EITHER.

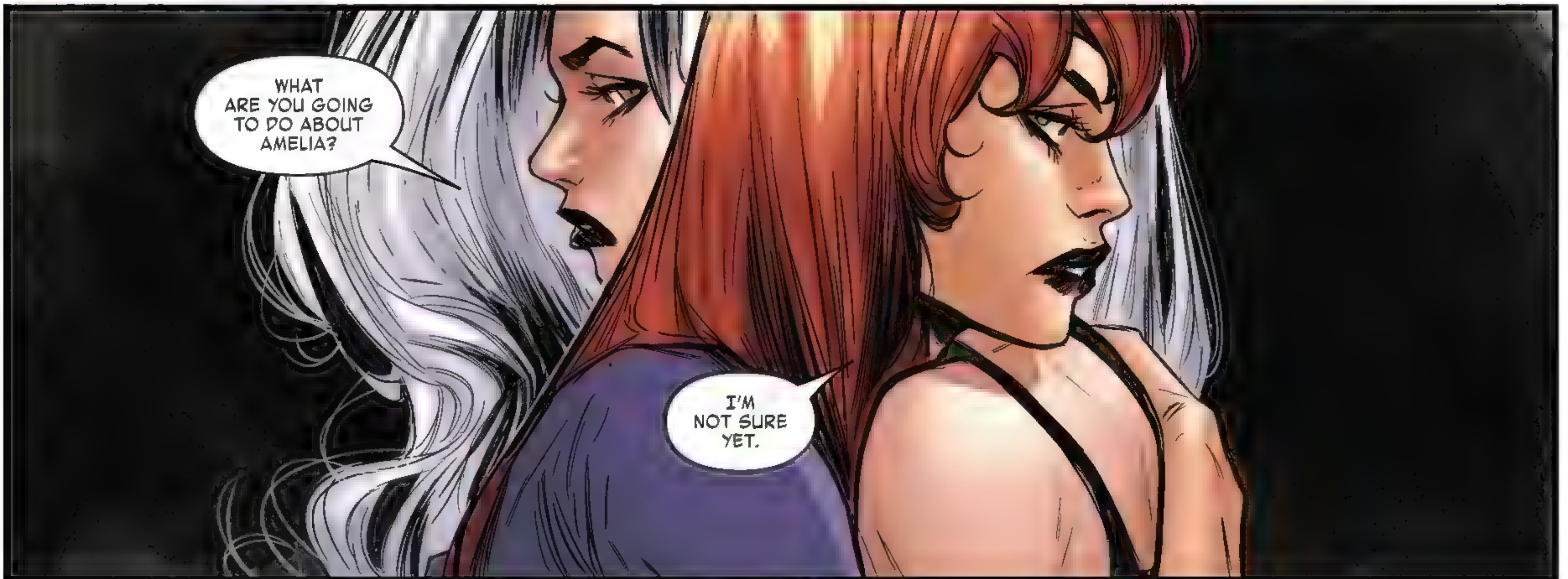
AND THAT GIVES YOU PERMISSION TO ALWAYS KEEP ONE FOOT OUT THE DOOR.

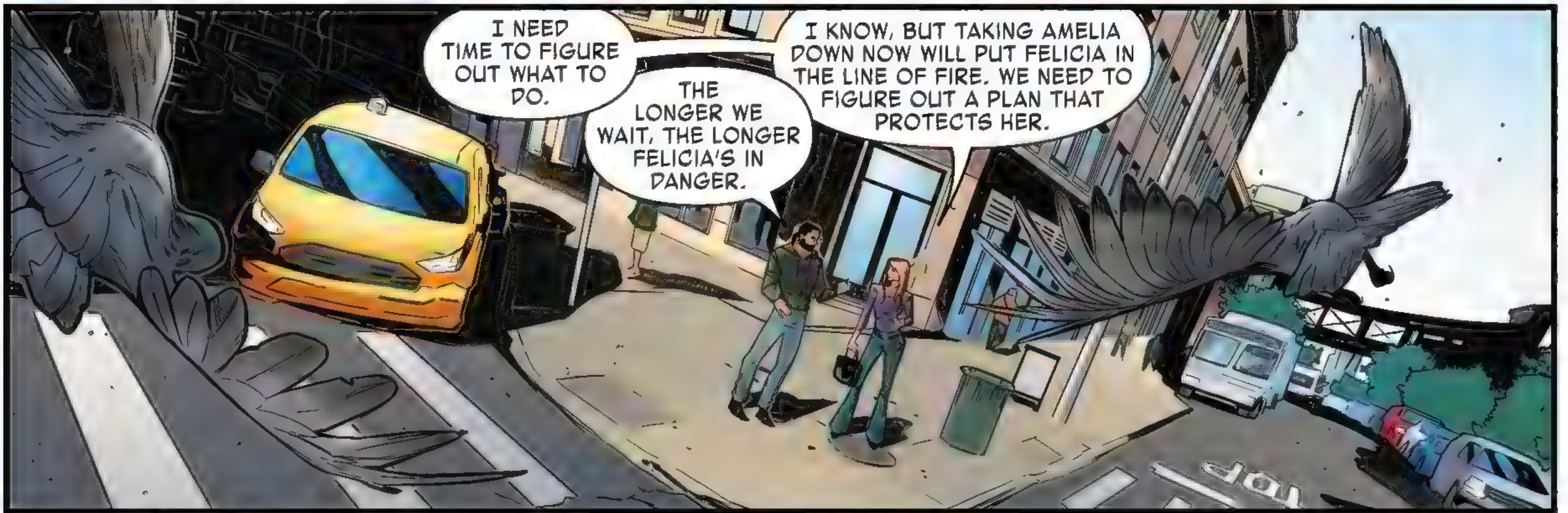
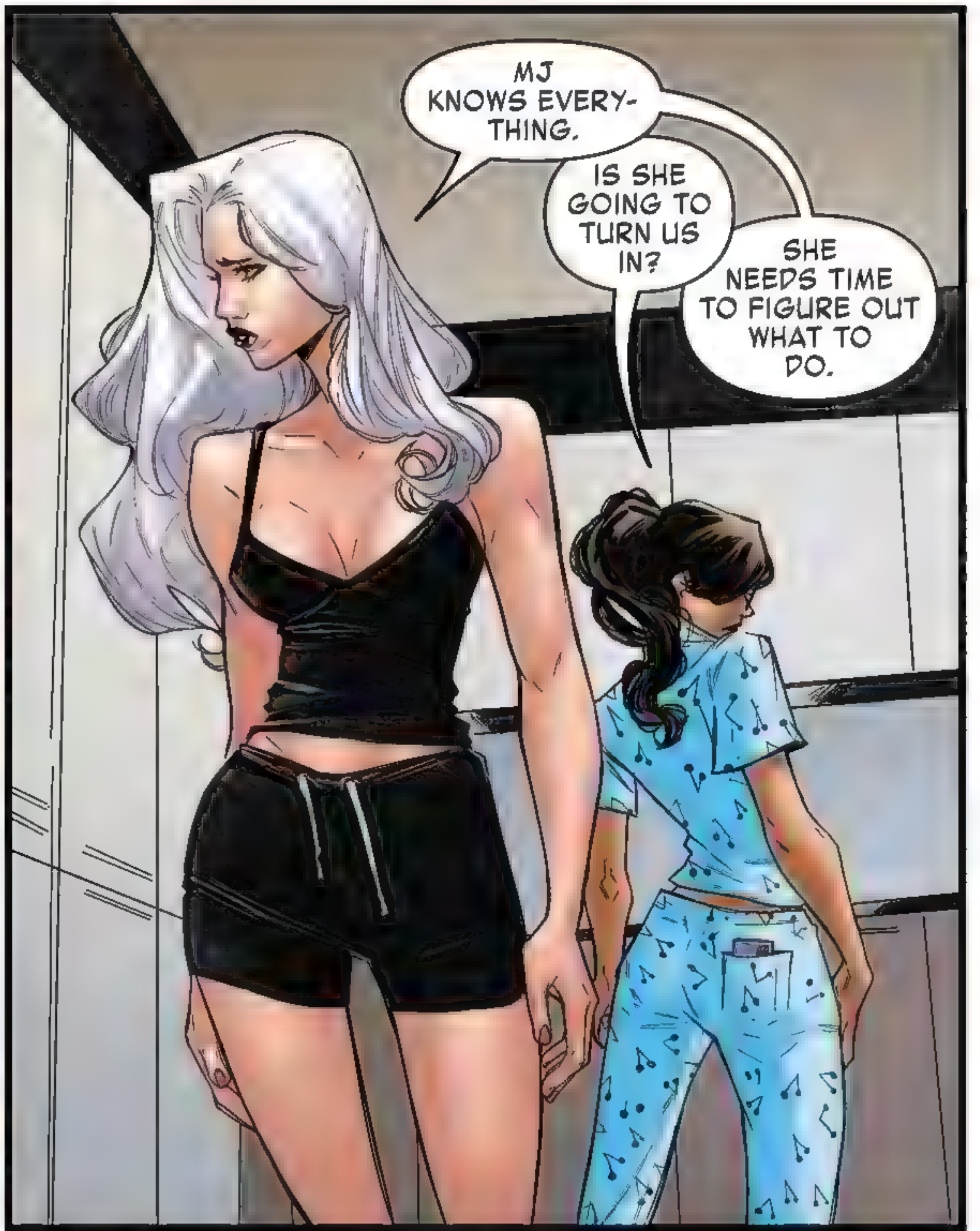


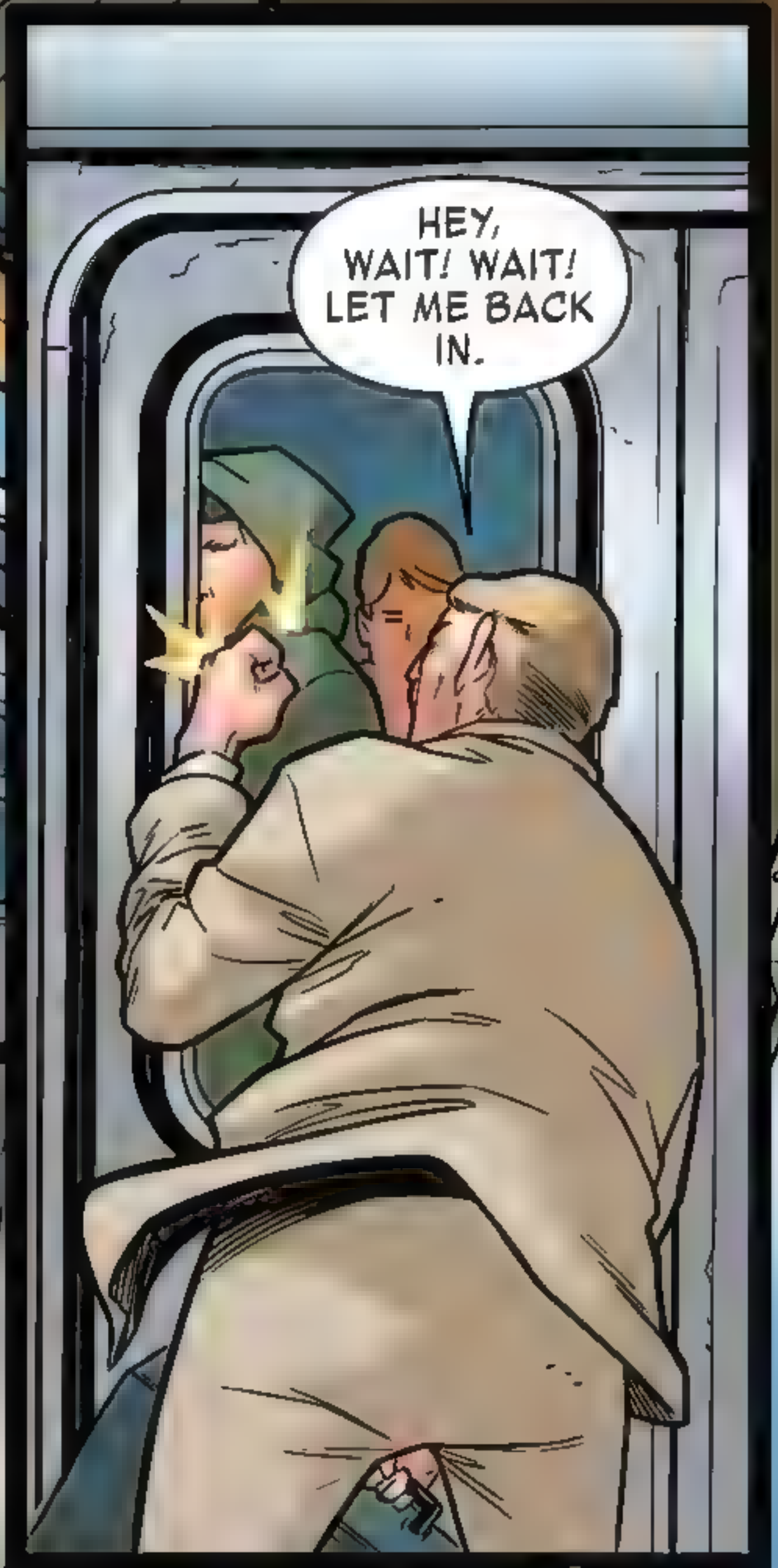
YOU DESERVE **BETTER**. YOU DESERVE SOMEONE WHO LOOKS AFTER YOU, THE WAY YOU'VE ALWAYS LOOKED OUT FOR **EVERYONE ELSE**. FOR **ME**. THERE ARE PEOPLE OUT THERE WHO **WILL** PUT YOU FIRST. WE'RE HERE, CHOOSING YOU. ALL YOU'VE GOT TO DO IS BE BRAVE ENOUGH TO **CHOOSE US** BACK.



COME ON. THEY'LL BE WONDERING WHAT'S TAKING US SO LONG.









OBSCURA
WANTS US TO HOLD
YOU HERE. SO AS LONG AS
YOU DON'T TRY ANYTHING, WE
CAN ALL GET THROUGH THIS
WITH SOME PEACE AND
DECORUM.

I'M SO
SORRY THIS
IS HAPPENING
TO YOU.

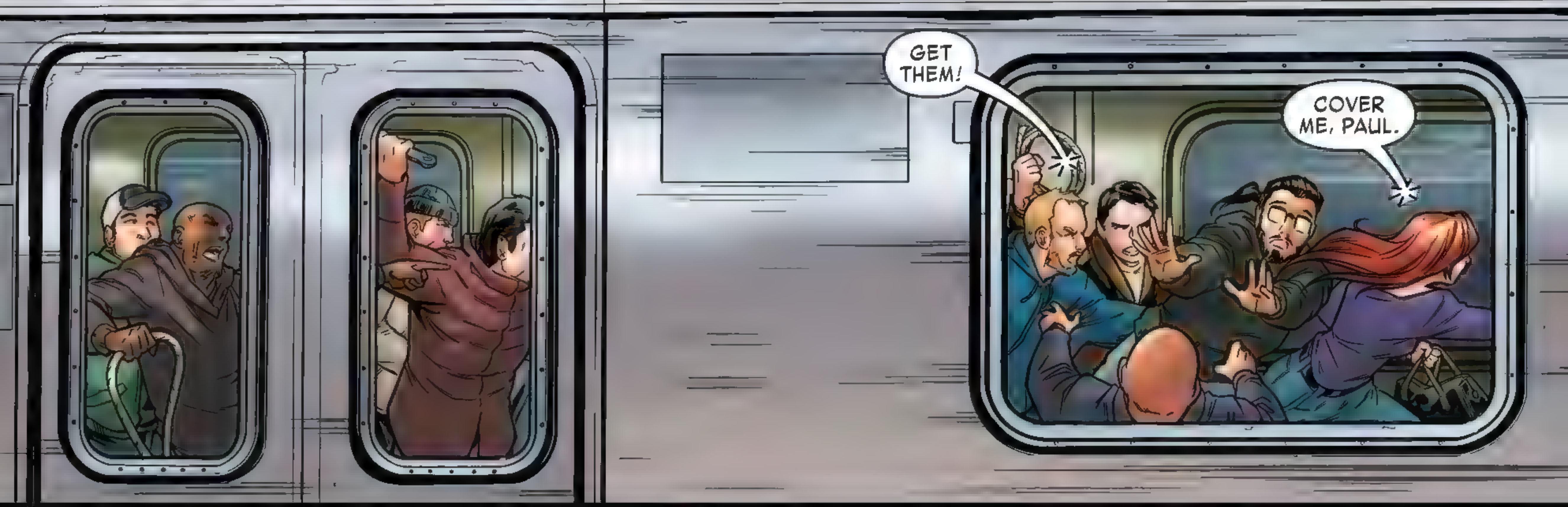
I'VE BEEN
ON THE OTHER SIDE
OF THOSE TEXTS. RIGHT
NOW, OBSCURA'S USING
YOUR FEAR AS THEIR
WEAPON.

BUT YOU
DON'T NEED TO
GIVE IN. THE ONLY WAY
TO REALLY PROTECT THE
PEOPLE YOU LOVE IS FOR
US TO TAKE DOWN
OBSCURA.

LET US
GO, AND I
PROMISE THAT'S
EXACTLY WHAT
I'LL DO.

YOU'RE
NOT GOING TO
MAKE THIS EASY,
ARE YOU?

RUN!



GET
THEM!

COVER
ME, PAUL.



CLICK

THUD

PING PING PING

ARGHH!

GET AWAY FROM MY BOYFRIEND!



HUH, OKAY, BIRDS
OF NEW YORK.
FLOCK MY WAY.

CAN
I CAN

TWEET
TWEET



WHAT'S SHE
DOING?

YOUR
QUESTIONS
WASTE TIME.

GET
HER!



WELL,
SHOOT.

GIVE ME
SOMETHING
GOOD THIS
TIME.





ONCE
THE DOOR
OPENS...

...WE RACE
OUT OF THIS
CAR AS FAST AS
POSSIBLE.



TAKE
YOUR TIME.
WE'RE NOT
GOING ANY-
WHERE.

TRACER

SQUID

ROCKET
RACER

SHOULD HAVE
KNOWN. BANDWIDTH
IS ALWAYS ONE
STEP AHEAD.



PETER USED TO TELL ME
THE MORE POWER YOU
HOLD, THE EASIER IT IS TO
LOSE SIGHT OF THE LINE.

TIME
TO HIT THE
JACKPOT.

THE ONE WE DRAW
IN THE SAND TO
SEPARATE RIGHT
FROM WRONG...

SAFETY FROM
DANGER...

GAHHH!

SELF-DEFENSE FROM
NEEDLESS ATTACK...

I LOST SIGHT
OF THE LINE WITH
FELICIA. I WANTED
HER TO TURN
ON AMELIA. ON
BANDWIDTH.

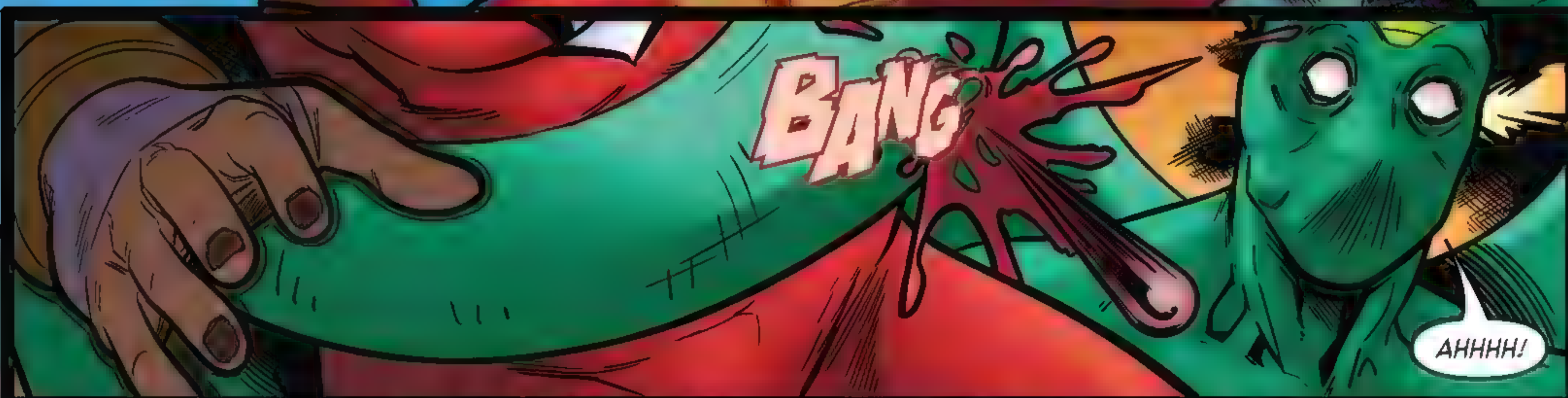


SO I PUSHED
HER. TOO HARD.



JACKPOT!
HELP!

AND NOW I'M ABOUT
TO SUFFER THE
CONSEQUENCES...



AHHHH!

I DIDN'T
DO THAT.



THAT'S
ONE LUCKY
MISFIRE.

OR MAYBE
I PUSHED HER
JUST HARD
ENOUGH.





EYES ON
THE ENEMIES,
RED.

WHICH,
AT THE MOMENT,
DOESN'T INCLUDE ME.
BUT MAYBE CHECK
BACK IN AN
HOUR?



WHAT
HAPPENED WITH
AMELIA? ARE YOU
OKAY?

AM I OKAY?
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S
JUST BEEN WHACKED BY
A COHORT OF D-LIST
VILLAINS.

TIME TO
WORK ON YOUR
PRIORITIES.



WHICH SHOULD
START AND END WITH
US FINDING A WAY
TO TAKE DOWN
BANDWIDTH.

THE OWL'S DEN.

TEN MILLION DOLLARS?

WE BELIEVE BANDWIDTH HACKED YOUR ACCOUNT DURING A VISIT, SIR.



I SHOULD
HAVE FINISHED
THE JOB A LONG
TIME AGO. BUT THIS
TIME, I WILL KILL
THE CAT.





BANDWIDTH HAS
TAKEN OVER NEW
YORK CITY.

YOU GUYS
JUST DON'T
GIVE UP!

BANG BANG
BANG

AHH!

SHE'S BLACKMAILED
CIVILIANS, WARPING THEIR
LOVE INTO FEAR...

VOLLEY
THE SICKO
MY WAY!

...AND USED THAT
FEAR AS AMMUNITION
AGAINST HER ENEMIES.

I'VE MADE IT TO THE
TOP OF HER HIT LIST,
AND WHILE I CAN'T
SAY I'M HONORED
TO BE HERE...

AHHH!

GOTCHA!

KRACK

...DOING THE RIGHT
THING'S ALWAYS BOUND
TO PISS SOMEONE OFF.



JACKPOT AND
BLACK CAT--TWENTY.
SQUID, ROCKET RACER,
AND TRACER--A WHOLE
BIG WHOPPING
ZERO.



IT'S SAFE
TO COME OUT
NOW, PAUL.

THANKS. I
DON'T MISS THIS
SORT OF THING IN
MY LIFE ALL THE
TIME.

I'VE COME
TO REALLY
APPRECIATE THE
SIDELINES.



I'LL
GET US A
TAXI.

BASED ON
THAT ATTACK,
I'M GUESSING AMELIA
KNOWS *WE* KNOW
SHE'S BEHIND
OBSCURA.

I TOLD
HER TO LEAVE
YOU ALONE. BUT SHE
DIDN'T GET INTO THIS
BUSINESS BECAUSE
TRUST COMES *EASY*
TO HER.



THANKS
FOR COMING
BACK FOR
US.

YOU'RE
AS CLOSE TO A
FRIEND AS I'VE
GOT, RED...

...BUT
THAT DOESN'T
MEAN I CAN ALWAYS
BE THERE RIGHT
WHEN YOU NEED
ME.



YOU
LOST ME.

THIS MORNING, YOU
SAID I DESERVE SOME-
ONE WHO LOOKS OUT FOR
ME, THE WAY I'VE ALWAYS
LOOKED OUT FOR
EVERYONE
ELSE.

I MEANT
IT.

WELL,
THAT'S A LOT OF
PRESSURE TO LIVE UP
TO. I'M A SURVIVOR.
I PUT *MYSELF* FIRST,
AND I ALWAYS
HAVE.



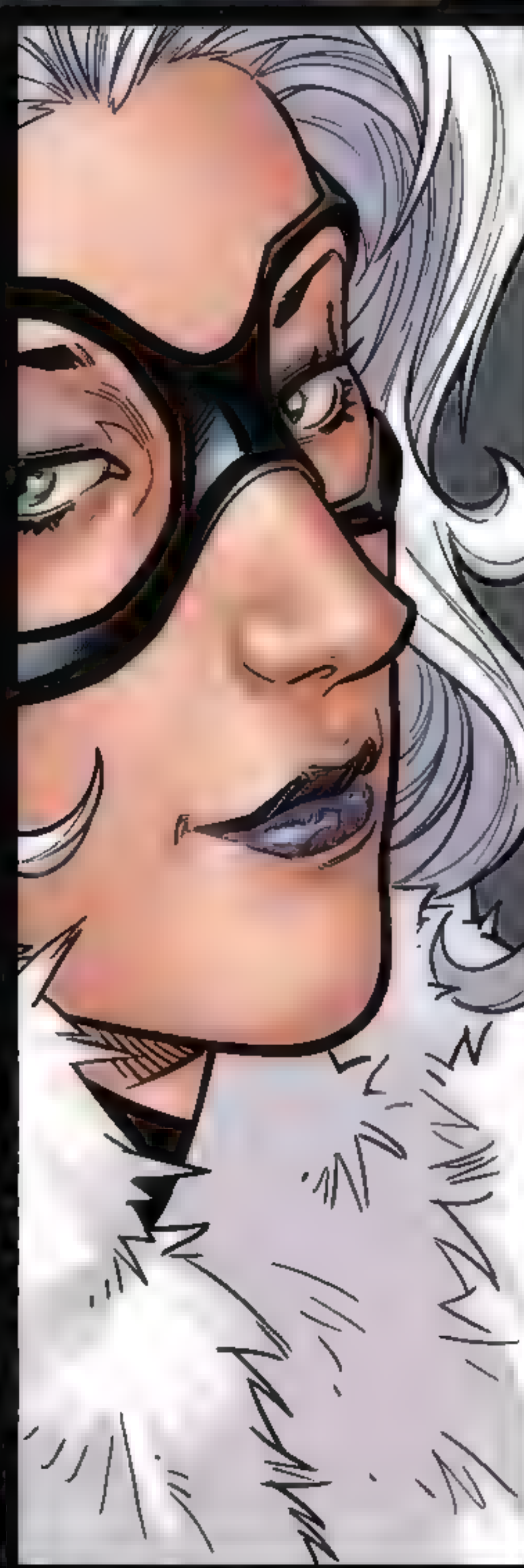
YOU'RE THE ONE
WHO CONVINCED ME
TO BELIEVE IN MYSELF WHEN
I BECAME JACKPOT. NOT TO
MENTION WHAT YOU DID FOR
BRUNO AND DR. KORPSE.
YOU DIDN'T DO THOSE
THINGS FOR *YOU*.

I KNOW YOU,
FELICIA. YOU'RE *TRYING*
TO PULL AWAY, BUT IT'S NOT
GOING TO WORK, BECAUSE
I'M NOT GOING ANYWHERE.



YOU
BETTER NOT SAY
ANY OF THAT CRAP
ABOUT *CHOOSING*
ME AGAIN.

JUST
PROMISE YOU'LL
HAVE BREAKFAST
WITH ME TOMORROW
MORNING.





WHAT ABOUT AMELIA AND THE OWL? ARE THEY ALSO GONNA GET ONE OF THESE FAMOUS MJ TALKING-TOS?

NAH. I'VE GOT TO CATER THE LESSON PLAN TO THE STUDENT.



WELL, I'VE GOT A TAXI WAITING. HE'S A LITTLE SURLY EVEN BY NEW YORK CABBIE STANDARDS. BUT HE HAS A FLIP PHONE, SO I THINK WE ARE SAFE FROM OBSCURA. WHERE ARE WE HEADED?



BANDWIDTH'S OUR PRIORITY. SHE JUST TRANSFERRED TEN MILLION DOLLARS FROM THE OWL'S ACCOUNT. SHE NEEDS TO CASH OUT BEFORE HEADING TO HER HIDEOUT, WHICH GIVES US THE PERFECT WINDOW TO ATTACK.



KNOWING BANDWIDTH, SHE'LL HAVE A LEGION OF OBSCURA'S ASSASSINS AT THE READY.

I MIGHT HAVE A WAY AROUND THEM.

THE OWL'S DEN

WE'RE
SENDING UNITS OF
SOLDIERS AROUND THE
CITY, BOSS. WE'LL
FIND THEM.

WHEN PEOPLE THINK OF
"THE OWL," THEY'VE BECOME
ACCUSTOMED TO REMEMBERING
MY MISTAKES OVER MY
SUCCESSSES. THAT CAT
IS THE REASON WHY.

SHE MADE A
FOOL OF ME YEARS
AGO, AND NOW SHE
AND HER GIRLFRIEND ARE
DETERMINED TO SEE
HISTORY REPEAT
ITSELF.

BUT TODAY,
I WILL SET THE
RECORD STRAIGHT.
TODAY, MY VICTORY WILL
LIVE ON THROUGH
MY NAME.

READY THE
TROOPS.



NON,
RIEN DE RIEN.
NON, JE NE
REGRETTE
RIEN.

WE ALL
WANT TO LIVE
WITHOUT REGRETS.
TO FEEL LIKE WE CAN
MOVE FREELY INTO
OUR FUTURE.



I WANT THAT FOR ALL OF YOU.
FOR YOUR FAMILIES TO BE SAFE
FROM OBSCURA'S THREATS. BUT
THAT'S NOT GOING TO HAPPEN
IF WE'RE CAUGHT. SO LET'S
PICK UP THE PACE,
SHALL WE?



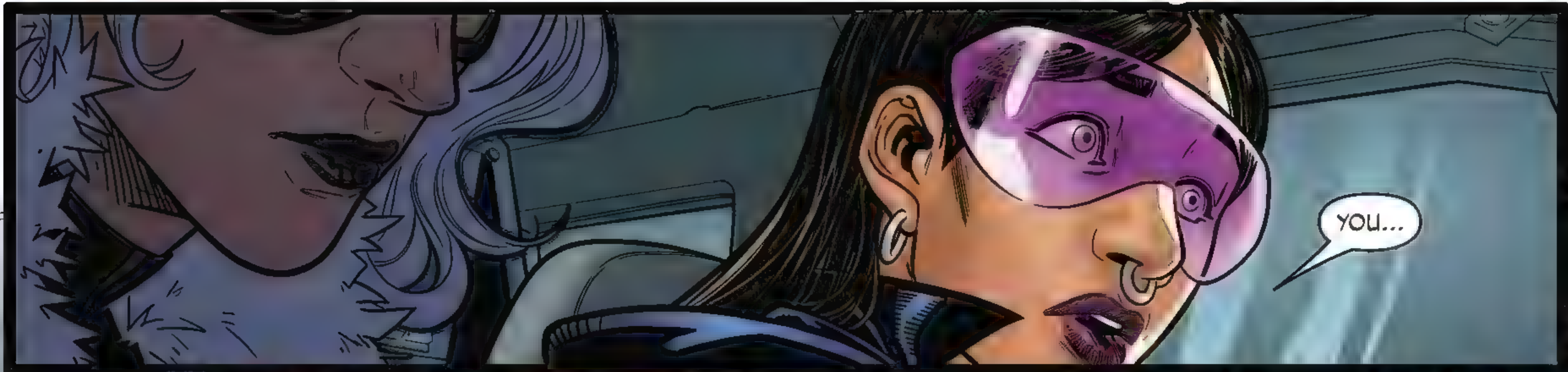
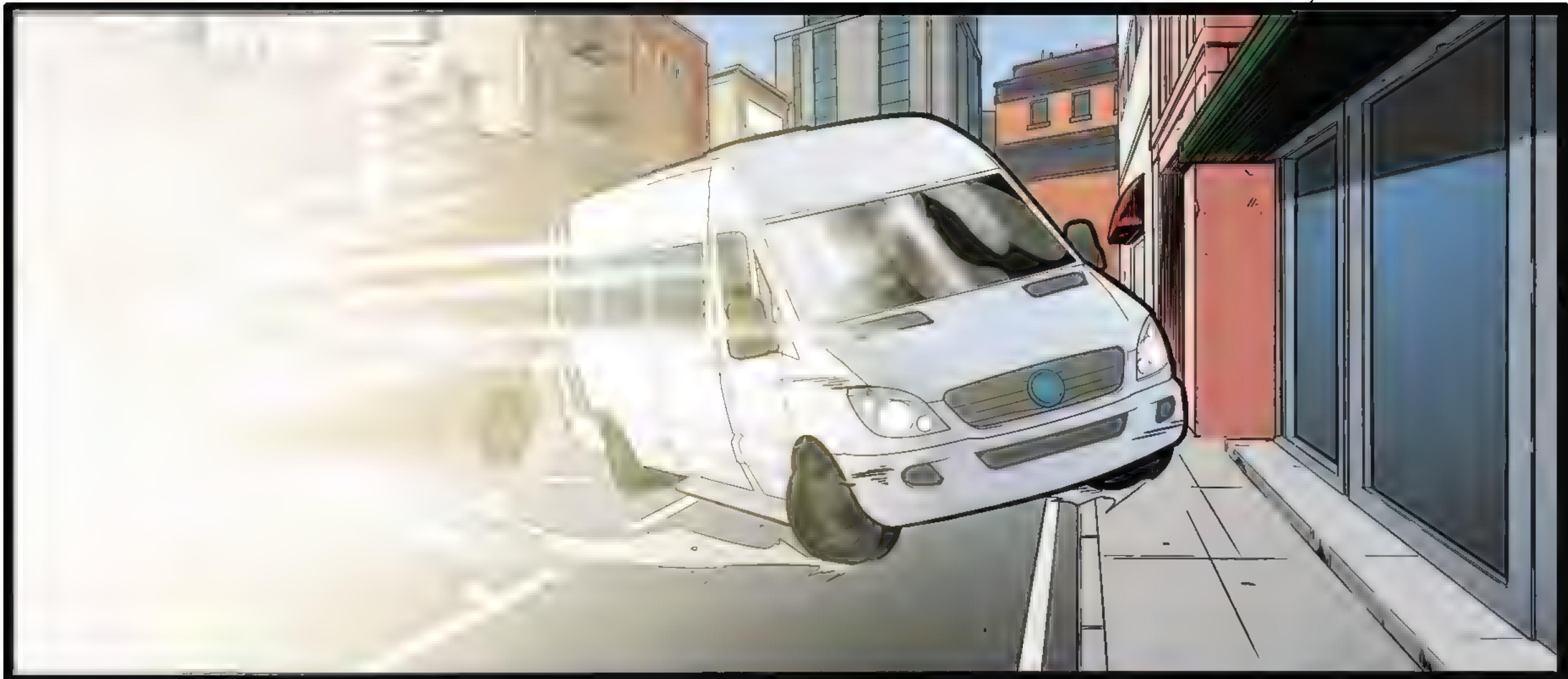
...WHAT ARE
YOU DOING HERE,
FELICIA?

I GOT A TIP.
IT SEEMS OUR FOWL
FOE'S REALIZED HIS WALLET'S
TEN MILLION DOLLARS LIGHTER.
FIGURED YOU COULD USE
SOME BACKUP.



LET'S
MOVE
OUT.

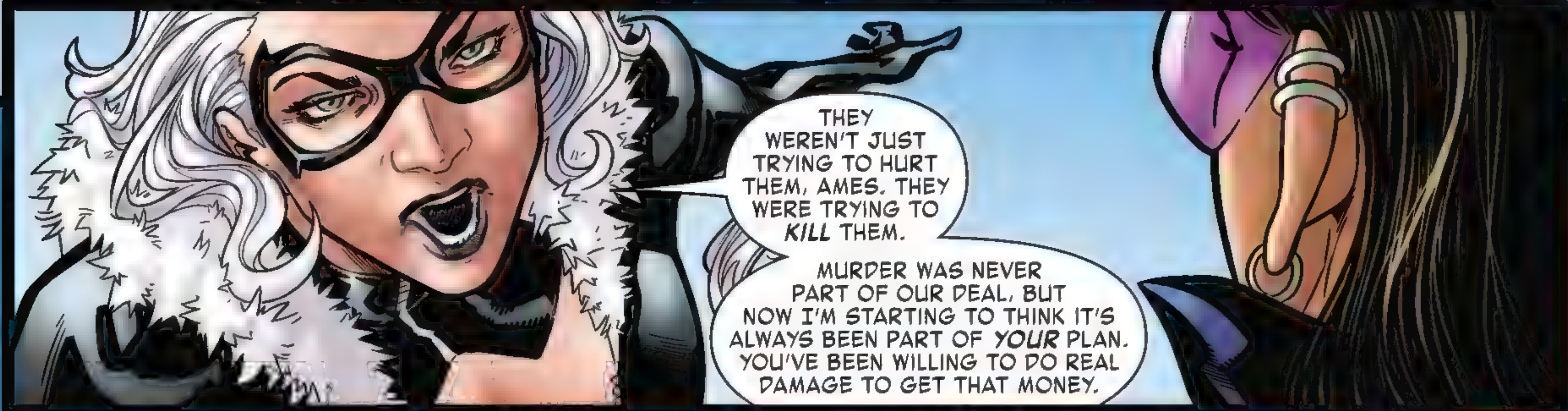






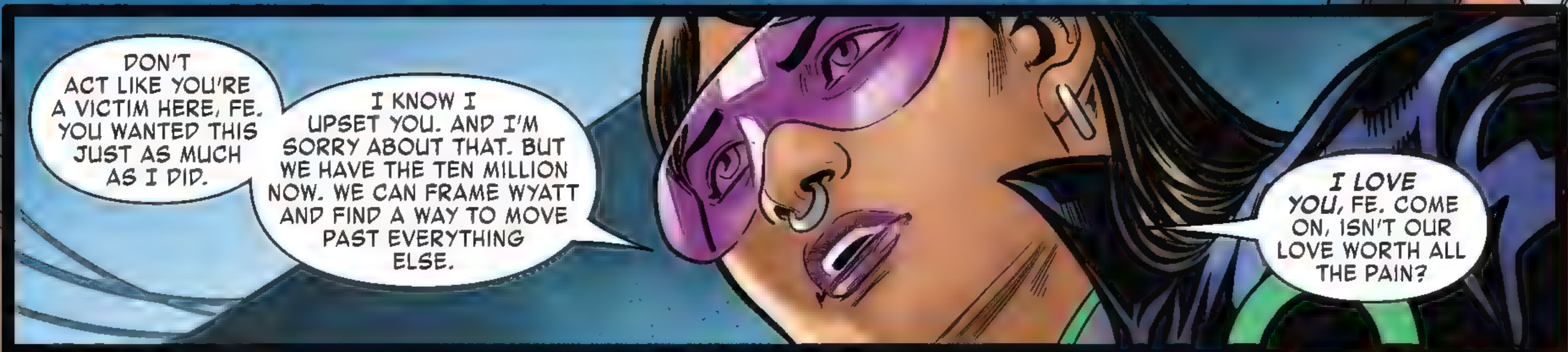
WHEN I FOUND MJ AT THE SUBWAY, SQUID, ROCKET RACER, AND TRACER WEREN'T EXACTLY GIVING HER THE FIVE-STAR "THROW IN A FREE MASSAGE FOR GOOD MEASURE" TREATMENT.

THEY WOULDN'T HAVE HURT YOU IF YOU'D FOLLOWED THEIR ORDERS.



THEY WEREN'T JUST TRYING TO HURT THEM, AMES. THEY WERE TRYING TO KILL THEM.

MURDER WAS NEVER PART OF OUR DEAL, BUT NOW I'M STARTING TO THINK IT'S ALWAYS BEEN PART OF YOUR PLAN. YOU'VE BEEN WILLING TO DO REAL DAMAGE TO GET THAT MONEY.



DON'T ACT LIKE YOU'RE A VICTIM HERE, FE. YOU WANTED THIS JUST AS MUCH AS I DID.

I KNOW I UPSET YOU. AND I'M SORRY ABOUT THAT. BUT WE HAVE THE TEN MILLION NOW. WE CAN FRAME WYATT AND FIND A WAY TO MOVE PAST EVERYTHING ELSE.

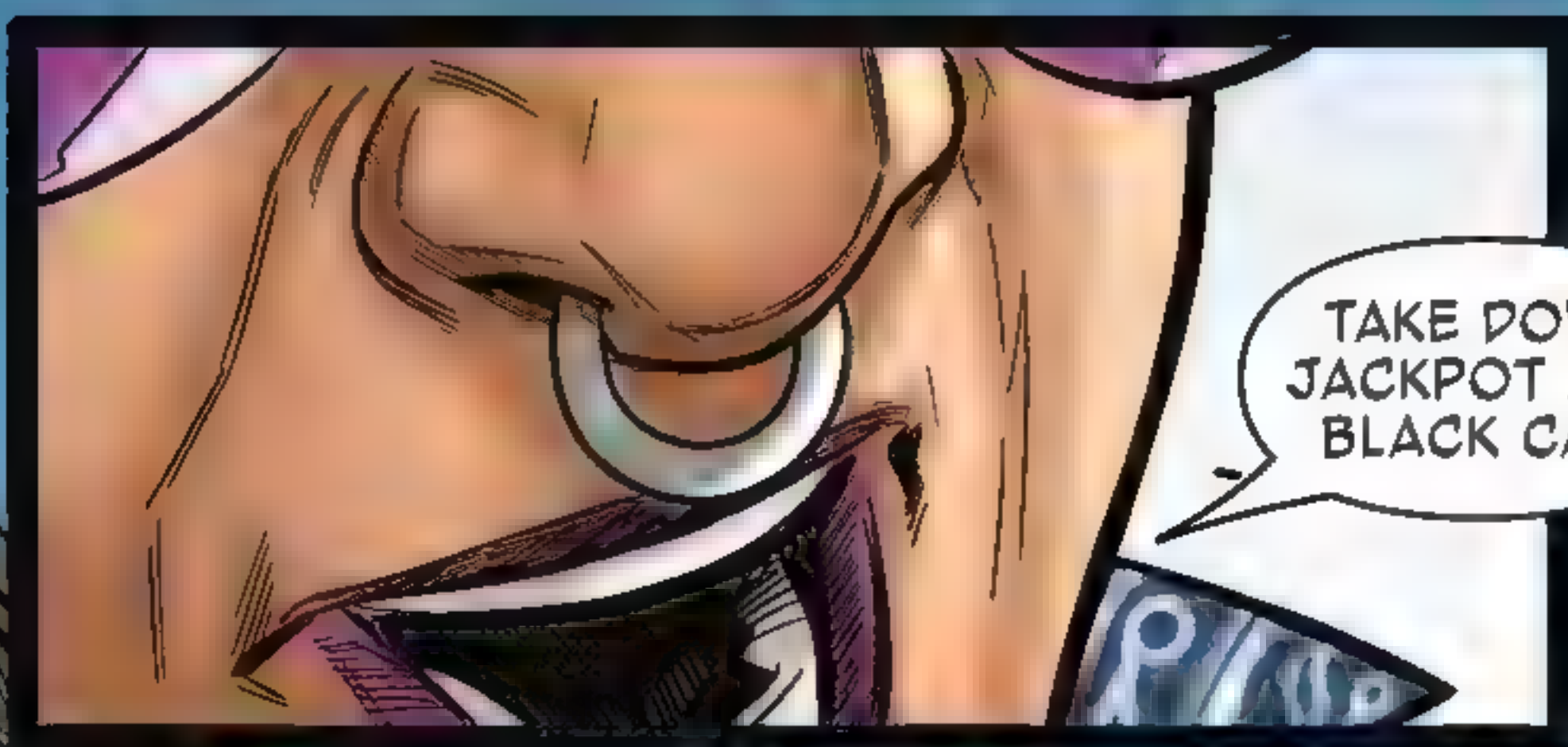
I LOVE YOU, FE. COME ON, ISN'T OUR LOVE WORTH ALL THE PAIN?



I DON'T THINK SO.

THAT REALLY HURTS...

...BUT NOT AS MUCH AS IT'S GOING TO HURT YOU.



TAKE DOWN JACKPOT AND BLACK CAT.



HUH?





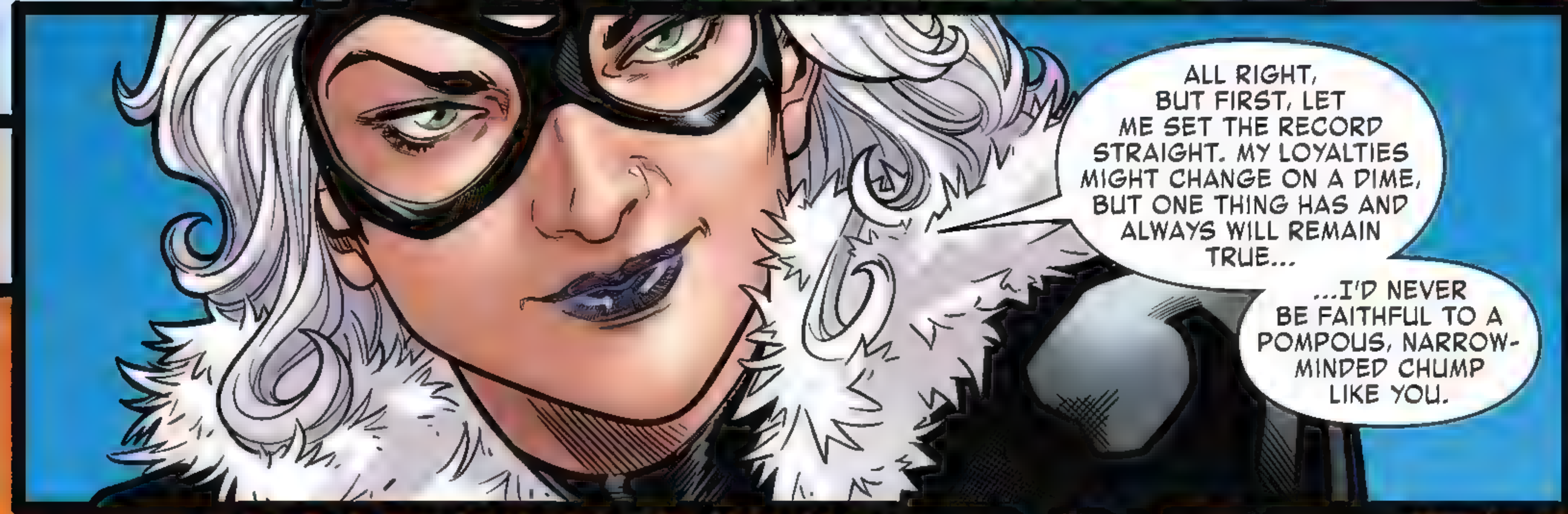
LOOK AT THAT. YOU'VE GOT A NEW COMRADE BY YOUR SIDE, CAT.

FELICIA CHANGES ALLEGIANCES SO OFTEN, IT'S BECOME DIFFICULT TO KEEP TRACK.



WE CAN'T ALL BE SHINING KNIGHTS OF VALOR LIKE YOU, OWLSLEY.

I'M ONLY HERE TO RETRIEVE WHAT WAS ALREADY MINE.



ALL RIGHT, BUT FIRST, LET ME SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT. MY LOYALTIES MIGHT CHANGE ON A DIME, BUT ONE THING HAS AND ALWAYS WILL REMAIN TRUE...

...I'D NEVER BE FAITHFUL TO A POMPOUS, NARROW-MINDED CHUMP LIKE YOU.



YOU HEARD THE CAT. **GO!**





THERE WE GO.



WHAT THE HELL?



IT'S CALLED DENSITY MANIPULATION.

I'VE ADDED A FEW THOUSAND POUNDS TO THAT LIGHT POST.

COME ANY CLOSER, I'LL MAKE YOU SO HEAVY YOU SINK INTO THE GROUND.



GET HER!

CAN'T SAY I DIDN'T WARN THEM. BUT THEY'RE EITHER TOO BRAVE OR TOO SCARED OF THE OWL TO LISTEN.

I ALMOST FEEL BAD FOR THEM.



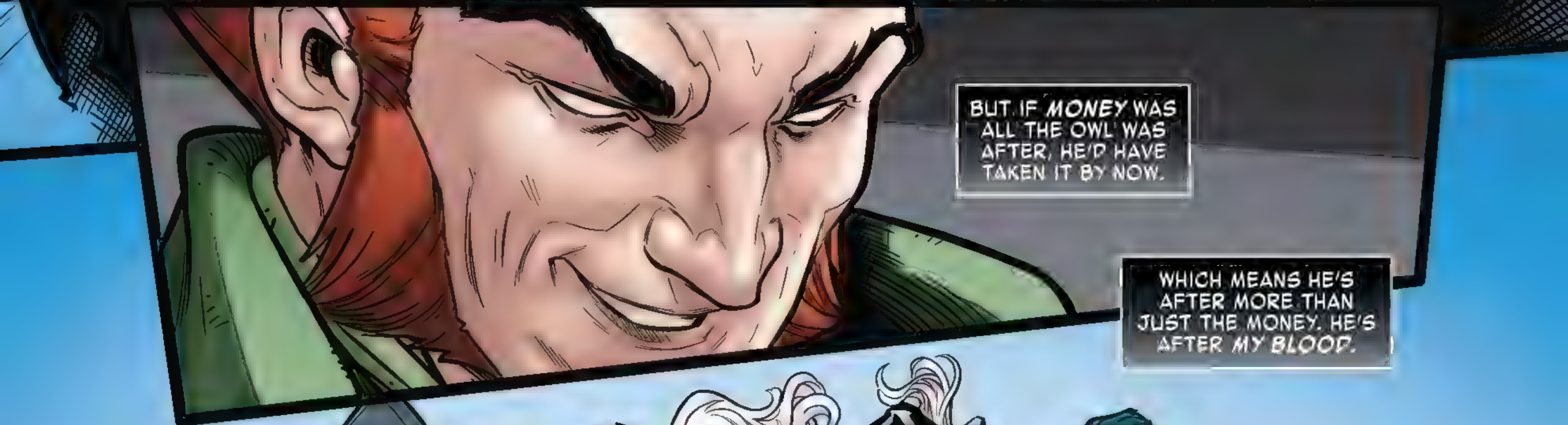
ALMOST.

KLANG



THE OWL'S GOT US
OUTNUMBERED

USUALLY, I'D CALL
IT. LEAVE THE TEN
MILLION BEHIND AND
SCAMPER HOME TO
LICK MY WOUNDS.



BUT IF MONEY WAS
ALL THE OWL WAS
AFTER, HE'D HAVE
TAKEN IT BY NOW.

WHICH MEANS HE'S
AFTER MORE THAN
JUST THE MONEY. HE'S
AFTER MY BLOOD.



AND I'VE BECOME
SORT OF PARTIAL
TO KEEPING THAT
INSIDE MY BODY.



GAAGH!!

PLAK

FELICIA!
I'VE GOT TO
GET HER OUT
OF THERE.

TAKING THOSE GUARDS DOWN
ONE BY ONE IS GOING TO
TAKE TOO LONG. SO WILL
SPINNING FOR A NEW POWER.

THINK, MJ.
THINK...

AHHH!

HA!

YEARS OF REWATCHING
RAIDERS OF THE LOST
ARK IS ABOUT TO
SERVE ME VERY WELL.

PETER'S GOING TO BE SO JEALOUS WHEN HE HEARS ABOUT THIS!

MOVE!

AHH!

I'VE GOT YOU.

JUMP!





PETER'S GOING TO BE SO JEALOUS WHEN HE HEARS ABOUT THAT.



HEY, OWL.



YOU PUT YOUR TRUST IN THE WRONG PEOPLE WITH ME AND BANDWIDTH.

PYROKINESIS. NOT NOW.



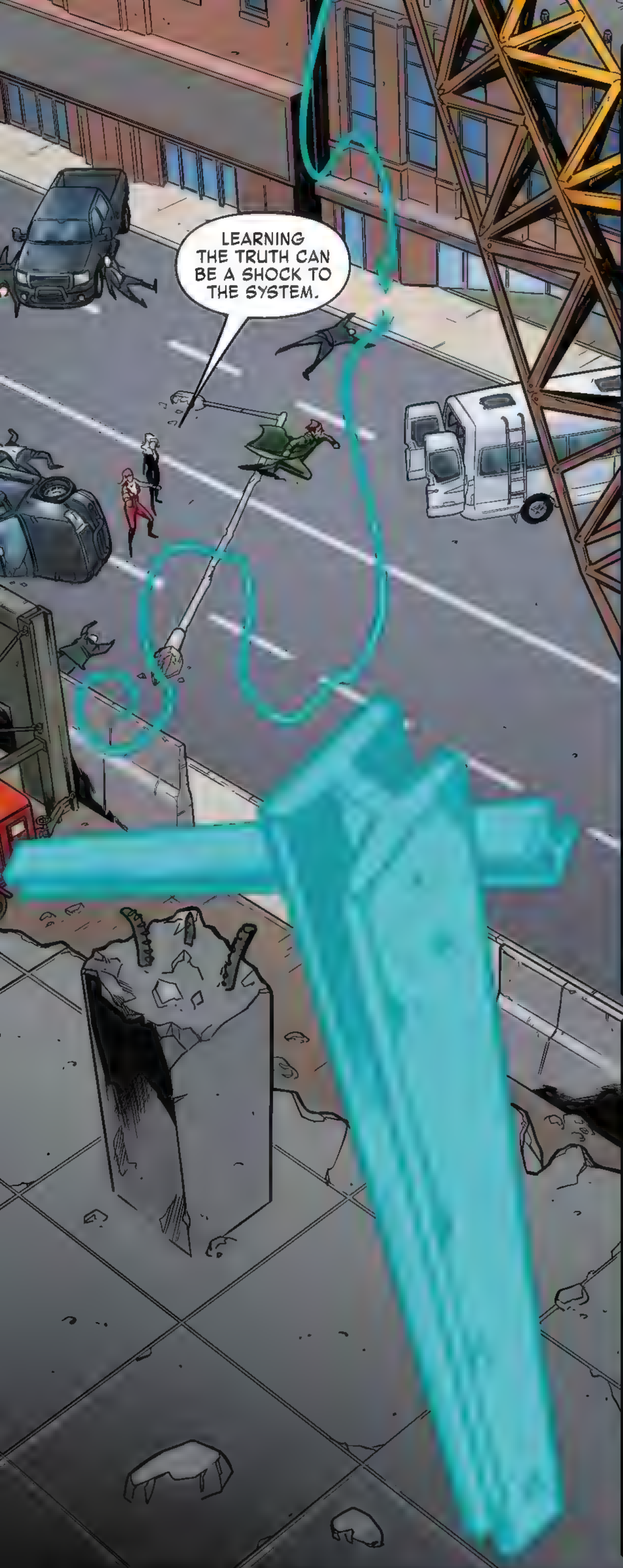
OF COURSE YOU FEEL SLIGHTED. HURT.

UNIVERSAL TRANSLATION. COME ON.



TELEKINESIS. THAT'LL DO.

I KNOW THAT FEELING.





WHEN
I GET OUT OF
HERE, CAT, I'LL
@#%&!@.

THAT FELT
GOOD.



WISH I COULD DROP
THIS SUIT OFF AT THE
DRY CLEANER. IT'S GOING
TO TAKE HOURS TO
GET THIS CLEAN.

I APPRECIATE
EVERYTHING YOU SAID
BEFORE, RED. ABOUT HOW
YOU'LL ALWAYS BE THERE
FOR ME...

...BUT
REMOVING
THOSE STAINS
IS ALL
YOU.

THE NEXT MORNING.

DAMN! THESE PASTRIES ARE SO GOOD THEY'RE SETTING AN UNREALISTIC STANDARD FOR ALL OTHER DESSERTS.

WHERE DID YOU GET THEM?

I HAD THEM FLOWN IN FROM PARIS THIS MORNING.

I TOLD YOU TO DONATE THE OWL'S MONEY.

I GAVE MOST OF IT AWAY. BUT THAT HOOTING HACK OWED ME. CALL IT COMPENSATION FOR EMOTIONAL DISTRESS.

IF YOU RIDE WITH ME LONG ENOUGH, RED, YOU TOO CAN MAKE NEW YORK CITY SCUM YOUR THRONE.

I BECAME JACKPOT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

TOMATO, TOMAAAAHTO.

YOU STOLE FROM WHITE RABBIT JUST THE SAME AS ME.

TO TAKE DOWN OBSCURA.

AND THAT'S WHAT SEPARATES YOU FROM THE OTHERS. YOU KNOW THE GAME'S RIGGED. AND THAT THE ONLY WAY TO FIX IT IS BY SLITHERING THROUGH THE CRACKS.

WELL, I'M ALL FOR EVENING THE ODDS.

CHEERS TO THAT.

THE END!



AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #31
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HUMBERTO RAMOS
& **EDGAR DELGADO**



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& **TRÍONA FARRELL**



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BETSY COLA



JACKPOT & BLACK CAT #4 BIG MARVELS
BLACK & WHITE VARIANT BY
SKOTTIE YOUNG



JACKPOT & BLACK CAT #4
BIG MARVELS VARIANT BY
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